

**National Interagency Coordination Center  
Incident Management Situation Report  
Sunday, October 2, 2022 – 0730 MDT  
National Preparedness Level 2**

**National Fire Activity:**

Initial attack activity:	Light (53 fires)
New large incidents:	1
Large fires contained:	3
Uncontained large fires: **	19
Area Command teams committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	0
Type 1 IMTs committed:	4
Type 2 IMTs committed:	3
***Complex IMTs committed:	0

\*\*\*Complex Incident Management Teams (CIMTs) are configured to respond to large, complex fires and can expand and reduce staffing in all functional areas as necessary to meet the needs of the incident.

Nationally, there are 66 fires being managed under a strategy other than full suppression.

\*\*Uncontained large fires include only fires being managed under a full suppression strategy.

[Link](#) to Geographic Area daily reports.

[Link](#) to Understanding the IMSR.

IMT 1 (Florida Red Team) has been mobilized to Fort Meyers, FL to assist with Hurricane Ian response operations. IMT 1 (Florida Gold Team) has been mobilized to Orlando, FL to assist with Hurricane Ian search and rescue operations. IMT 1 (SA Red Team) has been mobilized to Dothan, AL to stage for Hurricane Ian support.

<b>Active Incident Resource Summary</b>							
<b>GACC</b>	<b>Incidents</b>	<b>Cumulative Acres</b>	<b>Crews</b>	<b>Engines</b>	<b>Helicopters</b>	<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>Change in Personnel</b>
AICC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NWCC	14	346,563	35	72	23	2,046	-184
ONCC	4	184,367	34	54	0	1,987	111
OSCC	3	2,479	2	6	2	107	0
NRCC	6	30,344	0	24	3	215	-78
GBCC	12	198,356	12	39	10	755	-55
SWCC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RMCC	0	0	0	0	0	0	-16
EACC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SACC	17	8,950	0	20	0	61	-34
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>771,060</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>5,171</b>	<b>-478</b>

**Northwest Area (PL 2)**

New fires: 5  
 New large incidents: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 7  
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 2

**Cedar Creek**, Willamette NF, USFS. IMT 2 (NW Team 7) and IMT 2 (NW Team 9). Fifteen miles east of Oakridge, OR. Timber and closed timber litter. Minimal fire behavior with creeping, isolated torching and smoldering. Numerous structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Double Creek**, Wallowa-Whitman NF, USFS. Ten miles southeast of Imnaha, OR. Timber and grass. Minimal fire behavior with creeping, backing and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Goat Rocks**, Gifford Pinchot NF, USFS. Eight miles east of Packwood, WA. Timber and closed timber litter. Minimal fire behavior with flanking, backing and creeping. Numerous residences threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**White River**, Okanogan-Wenatchee NF, USFS. Twenty-three miles northwest of Leavenworth, WA. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with backing, flanking and isolated torching. Numerous structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Irving Peak**, Okanogan-Wenatchee NF, USFS. Twenty-six miles northwest of Leavenworth, WA. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with backing, flanking and isolated torching. Structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

**Minnow Ridge**, Okanogan-Wenatchee NF, USFS. Twenty-five miles north of Leavenworth, WA. Timber. Moderate fire behavior with backing, flanking and isolated torching. Area, road and trail closures in effect. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

**Kalama**, Gifford Pinchot NF, USFS. Six miles north of Cougar, WA. Timber and light slash. No new information. Last report unless new information is received.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Cedar Creek	OR-WIF	120,655	64	27	Ctn	11/1	991	-31	18	21	8	0	109M	FS
Double Creek	OR-WWF	171,497	9,906	89	Ctn	10/31	312	-157	3	11	5	3	34.3M	FS
Goat Rocks	WA-GPF	4,114	85	0	Ctn	10/15	226	12	4	8	4	0	10.2M	FS
White River	WA-OWF	4,206	210	10	Ctn	10/30	111	0	3	5	2	0	17M	FS
Irving Peak	WA-OWF	4,203	208	7	Ctn	10/31	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.2M	FS
Minnow Ridge	WA-OWF	2,212	206	0	Ctn	10/31	1	0	0	0	0	0	115K	FS
Kalama	WA-GPF	435	---	5	Ctn	10/31	157	---	4	5	3	0	5.2M	FS
Vines Hill	OR-VAD	2,428	0	100	Ctn	---	2	-11	0	1	0	0	50K	BLM
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Sturgill	OR-WWF	21,621	52	80	Comp	10/31	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.8M	FS
Nebo	OR-WWF	12,608	1	94	Comp	10/31	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.2M	FS
Goat Mountain Two	OR-WWF	584	0	0	Comp	10/31	0	0	0	0	0	0	75K	FS
McAllister Creek	WA-NCP	550	---	0	Comp	10/31	5	---	0	0	1	0	10K	NPS
Alligator	WA-COF	800	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	300K	FS

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Siouxon	WA-GPF	179	---	0	Comp	10/31	8	---	0	2	0	0	103K	FS
Thor	WA-COF	1,464	---	0	Comp	10/31	13	---	1	1	0	0	1.3M	FS
Slate Creek	WA-COF	820	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	50K	FS
Boulder Lake	WA-MSF	797	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	35K	FS
Lake Toketie	WA-MSF	612	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	10K	FS
Chilliwack Complex	WA-NCP	8,910	---	0	Comp	12/31	22	---	0	0	1	0	497K	NPS

VAD – Vale District, BLM    NCP – North Cascades NP, NPS    COF – Colville NF, USFS  
MSF – Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie NF, USFS

### **Great Basin Area (PL 2)**

New fires: 5  
New large incidents: 0  
Uncontained large fires: 3  
Type 2 IMTs committed: 1

**Moose**, Salmon-Challis NF, USFS. IMT 2 (GB Team 5). Seventeen miles north of Salmon, ID. Short grass, brush and timber. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Numerous residences threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Four Corners**, Payette NF, USFS. Six miles west of Cascade, ID. Timber and closed timber litter. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering and single tree torching. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Cottonwood**, Payette NF, USFS. Started on state land 20 miles northwest of Cambridge, ID. Brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Structures threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Moose	ID-SCF	130,112	0	75	Ctn	10/31	315	-22	3	8	3	9	96.1M	FS
Four Corners	ID-PAF	13,729	0	96	Ctn	10/5	5847	-11	1	4	0	0	35.4M	FS
Cottonwood	ID-PAF	1,275	0	75	Ctn	10/2	41	0	1	2	0	0	150K	ST
Dennett	ID-BOD	1,065	0	100	Ctn	---	32	-17	1	1	0	0	60K	BLM
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Ross Fork	ID-STF	37,868	0	70	Comp	10/31	63	0	0	8	1	3	18M	FS
Tenmile	ID-PAF	2,028	0	64	Comp	10/31	15	-5	0	1	1	0	7.1M	FS
Woodtick	ID-SCF	9,598	---	50	Comp	UNK	2	---	0	0	0	0	5.9M	FS
Wolf Fang	ID-SCF	2,082	---	0	Comp	UNK	1	---	0	0	0	0	80K	FS
Porphyry	ID-PAF	2,930	---	50	Comp	10/15	0	---	0	0	0	0	2M	FS
Patrol Point	ID-PAF	16,561	---	66	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	250K	FS
Dismal	ID-PAF	9,501	---	66	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	300K	FS
Norton	ID-SCF	9,069	---	21	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	900K	FS
Horse	ID-SCF	397	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	21K	FS

BOD – Boise District, BLM    STF – Sawtooth NF, USFS

### **Southern Area (PL 3)**

New fires: 16  
New large incidents: 0  
Uncontained large fires: 6

**Lazy**, Texas A&M Forest Service. Started on private land three miles northeast of Brad, TX. Brush and tall grass. Minimal fire behavior. Residences threatened.

**Kerns Ranch**, Oklahoma DOF. Seven miles east of Cloudy, OK. Timber and hardwood litter. No new information. Last report unless new information is received.

**Four Mile Creek**, Oklahoma DOF. Two miles northeast of Kendrick, OK. Timber. No new information. Last report unless new information is received.

**Turkey Creek**, Oklahoma DOF. Ten miles southeast of Stringtown, OK. Timber and short grass. No new information. Last report unless new information is received.

**Spare**, Oklahoma DOF. Four miles southwest of Jay, OK. Hardwood litter. No new information. Last report unless new information is received.

**Blue Hole**, Oklahoma DOF. Five miles northeast of Broken Bow, OK. Timber. No new information. Last report unless new information is received.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Lazy	TX-TXS	1,800	0	75	Ctn	10/5	3	-46	0	0	0	0	NR	PRI
Kerns Ranch	OK-OKS	3,350	---	50	Ctn	10/3	2	---	0	1	0	0	99K	ST
Four Mile Creek	OK-OKS	586	---	75	Ctn	UNK	5	---	0	2	0	0	79K	ST
Turkey Creek	OK-OKS	370	---	90	Ctn	UNK	1	---	0	1	0	0	5.5K	ST
Spare	OK-OKS	110	---	80	Ctn	10/7	4	---	0	2	0	0	5K	ST
Blue Hole	OK-OKS	1,153	---	80	Ctn	UNK	1	---	0	1	0	0	68K	ST
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
* 2066 Rock Hill Rd	MS-MSS	122	---	100	Comp	---	5	---	0	0	0	0	24.4K	PRI

MSS – Mississippi Forestry Commission

### **Northern California Area (PL 2)**

New fires: 12  
New large incidents: 0  
Uncontained large fires: 2  
Type 1 IMTs committed: 1

**Mosquito**, Tahoe NF, USFS. IMT 1 (CA Team 2). Twenty miles south of Emigrant Gap, CA. Timber and chaparral. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering and creeping. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**2022 SRF Lightning Complex**, Six Rivers NF, USFS. One mile northeast of Willow Creek, CA. Timber and light slash. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Numerous structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect. Last report unless significant activity occurs.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Mosquito	CA-TNF	76,788	0	90	Ctn	10/15	1,540	-88	27	46	0	78	126M	FS
2022 SRF Lightning Complex	CA-SRF	41,598	2	97	Ctn	10/15	72	-2	1	2	0	8	99M	FS

### **Northern Rockies Area (PL 2)**

New fires: 0  
New large incidents: 0  
Uncontained large fires: 1

**Wilkins Gulch**, Craig Mountain Area, IDL. Ten miles northwest of Grangeville, ID. Timber and grass. No new information.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Wilkins Gulch	ID-CMS	490	---	90	Ctn	UNK	0	---	0	0	0	0	350K	ST
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Kootenai River Complex	ID-IPF	22,559	77	84	Comp	10/15	90	-65	0	13	1	0	12.5M	FS
Bull Gin Complex	MT-KNF	4,281	1	44	Comp	10/31	92	-9	0	5	2	0	13.7M	FS
Diamond Watch	ID-IPF	1,220	43	60	Comp	10/31	16	0	0	0	0	0	1.2M	FS
Van Camp	ID-NCF	3,539	0	0	Comp	12/31	0	0	0	0	0	0	18.2K	FS
Castle	ID-NCF	678	0	0	Comp	12/31	0	0	0	0	0	0	160K	FS
Fire Creek	ID-NCF	607	208	0	Comp	12/31	0	0	0	0	0	0	8K	FS
Frenchman Butte	ID-NCF	267	156	0	Comp	12/31	0	0	0	0	0	0	5K	FS
Huckleberry	ID-NCF	482	0	0	Comp	12/31	0	0	0	0	0	0	2K	FS
Bear Creek	MT-BRF	235	---	75	Comp	10/22	0	---	0	0	0	0	78K	FS
Hog Trough	MT-BRF	1,701	---	76	Comp	10/30	3	---	0	1	0	0	NR	FS
Trail Ridge	MT-BDF	17,539	---	78	Comp	10/31	41	---	0	7	0	0	3.5M	FS
Indian Ridge	MT-BRF	8,953	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	115K	FS
Ursus	MT-FNF	4,274	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	30K	FS
Cayuse Mountain	MT-BRF	3,635	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	2K	FS
Twist Creek	MT-BRF	2,316	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	55K	FS
Cannon	MT-FNF	2,025	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	25K	FS
Margaret	MT-FNF	1,554	---	0	Comp	10/31	5	---	0	1	0	0	25K	FS
No Grass Creek	MT-HLF	1,145	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	95K	FS
Mill Lake	MT-BRF	915	---	63	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	890K	FS
George Lake	MT-FNF	682	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	16K	FS
Cayuse	MT-BRF	560	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	10K	FS
Dean Creek	MT-FNF	520	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	26K	FS
Solomon	MT-LNF	434	---	87	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	45K	FS

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Fire Creek	MT-BRF	342	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	1K	FS
Green Ridge	MT-BRF	186	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	20K	FS
Eagle Creek	MT-BRF	176	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	3K	FS
Boulder Lake	MT-LNF	1,831	---	90	Comp	11/1	1	---	0	0	0	0	235K	FS
Blodgett Lake	MT-BRF	2,307	---	51	Comp	11/15	31	---	0	1	0	0	2.5M	FS
Lower Twin	ID-NCF	1,993	---	0	Comp	11/15	0	---	0	0	0	0	5K	FS
Caledonia	ID-NCF	1,535	---	0	Comp	11/15	0	---	0	0	0	0	5K	FS
Deep Creek	ID-NCF	598	---	0	Comp	11/15	0	---	0	0	0	0	5K	FS
Wallow	ID-NCF	481	---	0	Comp	11/15	0	---	0	0	0	0	10K	FS
Isabella	ID-NCF	467	---	0	Comp	11/15	0	---	0	0	0	0	5K	FS
Wash	ID-NCF	444	---	0	Comp	11/15	0	---	0	0	0	0	5K	FS
Big Creek	MT-BRF	157	---	75	Comp	11/15	0	---	0	0	0	0	5K	FS
Warm Springs	ID-NCF	5,232	---	1	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	5K	FS
Columbus	ID-IPF	2,298	---	0	Comp	10/31	20	---	0	4	0	0	350K	FS
Post Office	ID-NCF	2,145	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	5K	FS
South Fork	ID-NCF	1,604	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	2.4K	FS
Howard Creek	ID-NCF	339	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	2K	FS
Ranger	ID-NCF	124	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	1K	FS

IPF – Idaho Panhandle NF, USFS    KNF – Kootenai NF, USFS    NCF – Nez Perce-Clearwater NF, USFS  
BRF – Bitterroot NF, USFS    BDF – Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, USFS    FNF – Flathead NF, USFS  
HLF – Helena-Lewis and Clark NF, USFS    LNF – Lolo NF, USFS

**Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Protection):**

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northwest Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	4	1	5
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	8	4	12
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	11	3	14
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	7	5	12
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Great Basin Area	FIRES	0	3	0	0	1	1	5
	ACRES	0	1,465	0	0	0	1,225	2,690
Southwest Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	ACRES	1,112	0	0	0	0	0	1,112
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern Area	FIRES	2	0	0	0	12	2	16
	ACRES	44	0	0	0	26	1	70
<b>TOTAL FIRES:</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>TOTAL ACRES:</b>		<b>1,156</b>	<b>1,465</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1,231</b>	<b>3,886</b>

**Fires and Acres Year-to-Date (by Protection):**

<b>Area</b>		<b>BIA</b>	<b>BLM</b>	<b>FWS</b>	<b>NPS</b>	<b>ST/OT</b>	<b>USFS</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	198	0	0	362	31	<b>591</b>
	ACRES	0	1,531,993	0	0	1,575,402	9	<b>3,107,404</b>
Northwest Area	FIRES	194	343	27	46	998	887	<b>2,495</b>
	ACRES	2,124	75,838	278	4,532	21,018	255,011	<b>358,801</b>
Northern California Area	FIRES	6	28	5	18	2,645	340	<b>3,042</b>
	ACRES	2	288	20	131	23,003	188,298	<b>211,742</b>
Southern California Area	FIRES	26	41	9	25	3,301	461	<b>3,863</b>
	ACRES	141	306	103	6,774	53,101	18,427	<b>78,852</b>
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	513	35	7	8	1,227	645	<b>2,435</b>
	ACRES	32,904	136	572	1,687	43,217	110,995	<b>189,511</b>
Great Basin Area	FIRES	32	597	6	42	760	402	<b>1,839</b>
	ACRES	6,641	102,942	58	37	44,760	265,890	<b>420,328</b>
Southwest Area	FIRES	399	198	8	29	522	842	<b>1,998</b>
	ACRES	39,368	13,328	15	2,717	159,776	764,398	<b>979,602</b>
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	330	357	13	26	1,123	322	<b>2,171</b>
	ACRES	22,185	6,950	142	848	190,014	16,082	<b>236,221</b>
Eastern Area	FIRES	106	0	20	11	5,938	373	<b>6,448</b>
	ACRES	264	0	680	17	39,803	2,935	<b>43,699</b>
Southern Area	FIRES	957	4	43	71	27,243	658	<b>28,976</b>
	ACRES	106,054	88	12,301	3,069	1,124,542	39,895	<b>1,285,948</b>
<b>TOTAL FIRES:</b>		<b>2,563</b>	<b>1,801</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>44,119</b>	<b>4,961</b>	<b>53,858</b>
<b>TOTAL ACRES:</b>		<b>209,683</b>	<b>1,731,869</b>	<b>14,169</b>	<b>19,813</b>	<b>3,274,636</b>	<b>1,661,939</b>	<b>6,912,109</b>

<b>Ten Year Average Fires (2012 – 2021 as of today)</b>	<b>45,394</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres (2012 – 2021 as of today)</b>	<b>6,411,325</b>

\*\*\*Changes in some agency YTD acres reflect more accurate mapping or reporting adjustments.

\*\*\*Additional wildfire information is available through the Geographic Areas at <https://gacc.nifc.gov>



**Predictive Services Discussion:** South-southeast sustained winds of 12-20 mph gusting 20-30 mph amid minimum relative humidity of 15-30% is forecast across the southern and central Plains into portions of southeast South Dakota and southwest Minnesota likely resulting in locally elevated conditions. Continued low relative of 20-35% is expected across the Ozarks and Lower Mississippi Valley to the central Gulf Coast, east and central Texas, and eastern Oklahoma, with occasionally gusty northerly to easterly winds. Isolated to scattered thunderstorms are likely from the Southwest through the greater Four Corners into southeast Montana and the northern and central High Plains. Scattered showers are likely across portions of Montana into northern Wyoming and western North Dakota. Rain is expected across the Mid-Atlantic as remnants of rain continue over the region.

<http://www.predictiveservices.nifc.gov/outlooks/outlooks.htm>



[This Day in History is a summary of a powerful learning opportunity and is not intended to second guess or be judgmental of decisions and actions. Put yourself in the following situation as if you do not know the outcome. What are the conditions? What are you thinking? What are YOU doing?

## Grant West RX (California) – October 2, 2004

*This Day in History*

**Incident Summary:** A prescribed fire was planned in the Grant Grove Sub District of Kings Canyon National Park. This park had long been known for its active prescribed fire program and, since 1981, had been home to the Arrowhead Hotshots. The unit being burned this day has been burned several times before. The predominant tree in this unit was white fir, a high-risk species, which had suffered a considerable die-off due to a Tussock Moth infestation. The unit had been prepped and hose-lays installed. Numerous snags along the line had been evaluated for firefighter safety and holding concerns. Some hazard trees were cut down or lined. One 146-foot-tall white fir snag 12 feet inside the line was considered sound by experienced firefighters and left standing. Torching brush and short trees during the test burn sent embers into the top of the snag where, within minutes, smoke and then flames were observed. The snag became a hazard as well as a holding concern. It was decided to fall the snag. Advanced Fallers (FAL1) were called over to size-up the tree. Daniel Holmes, an Arrowhead Hotshot, was the swamper. Because of its lean, it was decided to drop it across the line and to move the hose-lay so that it could be suppressed as a spot fire. Holmes and another faller pass under the snag on the fireline as they walk over to assist in moving the hose-lay before they cut the tree. Several firefighters see the top of the snag fall and yell. Holmes and the faller started to run but the falling tree top hit Holmes on the head and he was knocked out. He never regained consciousness.

**Daniel Holmes would become the 20th firefighter killed by a snag since 1960.**

### Discussion Points:

The morning began with a safety briefing and most of the firefighters confirmed that snag hazards were emphasized several times.

- If you were giving your crew a briefing about hazard trees in your area, what points would you emphasize?
- You and your crew are sizing up hazard trees in preparation for a prescribed burn in your area.
- What are the common high-risk species of trees?
- Discuss how you will determine the soundness of the trees.
- What are the common indicators that they have become unhealthy/unsafe?
- Knowing when the top of this tree would fall is impossible. The top of the snag had been burning for less than 2 hours. The winds had been light.
- Would you have considered this tree as hazardous as it really was?
- Knowing that the top of the tree might eventually fall, what will you do to be ready for it?
- Though there were three experienced fallers paying attention to the burning snag during its size-up, once the firefighters transitioned to moving the hose-lay there was not a dedicated lookout assigned for that task.

- How will you and your crew manage the safety of all firefighters when you are in a similar transition situation?
- How can you better expect the unexpected after reading about this tragic accident?



Arrowhead Hotshot Daniel Holmes – 2004

### References:

Holmes Accident Investigation and other documents, <http://www.wildfirelessons.net/viewdocument/?DocumentKey=4994f346-1bf5-44fb-bea2-91251e05ed6a>

Hazard Tree and Tree Felling Subcommittee, [Hazard Tree and Tree Felling Subcommittee](#)

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