



TO :

FROM : National Wildfire Coordinating Group

REPLY TO : NWCG@nifc.gov

DATE : 09/25/2006

SUBJECT : SAFETY BULLETIN : 24 Hr Kern Canyon Roll-over Report



24 Hr KernCanyon.doc

24 HOUR REPORT / KERN CANYON ROLLOVER

The following information is preliminary and is subject to change

To: Ron Huntsinger, Bakersfield Field Manager

Subject: 24 Hour Report, (BLM Engine Accident in Central California)

LOCATION: Highway 178, in the Kern river canyon, near call box 2.

DATE OF OCCURRENCE: September 22, 2006

TIME OF OCCURRENCE: 10:49 Hours

TEAM LEADER: Kevin Chambers

ACTIVITY: Routine travel, non-suppression

NUMBER OF INJURIES: 1

NUMBER OF FATALITIES: 0

PROPERTY DAMAGE: Total loss of BLM Light (Type 4) Fire Engine.

Narrative: On September 22, 2006, BLM Light Engine 3143 was involved in a single vehicle rollover accident. The BLM driver was returning to the Chimney Peak Fire Station traveling eastbound on Hwy 178 when another vehicle approaching from the opposite direction crossed onto the eastbound lane, forcing the driver of the BLM engine to swerve towards the shoulder of the road. Shortly after, the right front tire left the pavement onto the shoulder, the tire blew-out, causing the driver to loose control. Following the tire blow-out, the engine impacted the embankment, forcing the vehicle into a spin, crossing the west bound lane and leaving the highway and off the embankment. The Engine rolled several times before coming to rest right side up at the edge of the Kern river.

The California Highway Patrol and USFS Law Enforcement initiated an accident report at the scene. The BLM Engine Operator was transported to a local hospital, and was treated and released with only minor injuries.

A local accident investigation team has been formed to initiate a final report.

/s/ (Kevin Chambers, Team Leader)

cc:

BLM-California Safety Manager
Office of Fire and Aviation Safety Manager
California State Fire Management Officer

