



# United States Department of the Interior



## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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### **24 HOUR REPORT ON TAOS CREW CARRIER MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT**

**To:** Mike Pool, Acting Director  
Tim Murphy, Assistant Director, Fire and Aviation

**Subject:** 24 Hour Report- New Mexico Highway 68 Vehicle Rollover Accident

**The Following information is preliminary and is subject to change**

**LOCATION:** New Mexico State Highway 68, approximately 5 miles Southwest of Taos, New Mexico

**DATE OF OCCURRENCE:** November 13, 2012

**TIME OF OCCURRENCE:** Approximately 1600 Hours MST

**ACTIVITY:** Hurricane Sandy Support

**NUMBER OF INJURIES:** 2 serious injuries and hospitalized, 7 other persons treated and released

**NUMBER OF FATALITIES:** 0

**PROPERTY DAMAGE:** BLM crew carrier destroyed

#### **Narrative:**

On November 13th, 2012 at approximately 1600 hours MST, a BLM fire crew carrier vehicle was involved in a single-vehicle roll-over accident approximately 5 miles southwest of Taos, New Mexico. The occupants of the vehicle were part of a 20-person Type 2 crew who had completed an assignment in support of Hurricane Sandy relief efforts. They were being transported from the Albuquerque, New Mexico airport to their home units.

Nine people were on board the vehicle: Seven BLM employees and two U.S. Forest Service employees.

One BLM employee and one U.S. Forest Service employee received serious but not life-threatening injuries, and remain hospitalized. The BLM employee was airlifted by helicopter to the hospital in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The U.S. Forest Service employee was transported to the hospital in Taos, New Mexico.

The seven other employees (six BLM, one U.S. Forest Service) were taken to the hospital for observation/or received treatment of minor injuries and were released.

An Interagency Fire Serious Accident Investigation Team and a Critical Incident Stress Management Team have been ordered.

/s/ Aden Seidlitz, Acting State Director

cc: BLM New Mexico Safety Manager  
National Office Fire and Aviation Safety Manager  
New Mexico State Fire Management Officer