



Forest  
Service

Modoc  
National  
Forest

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File Code: 5100/6730

Date: June 11, 2013

Route To:

Subject: Smoke Jumper Fatality, Saddle Back Incident; Preliminary 24-hour Briefing

To: Randy Moore, Regional Forester, R5

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Location: Saddle Back Fire, Warner Mountain District, Modoc NF, California

Date of occurrence: June 10, 2013

Time of occurrence: Approximately 1700 hours

Mission: Initial Attack.

Activity: Constructing Fire line to contain fire.

Number injured: None

Number of fatalities: 1

Property damage: None

Narrative: While constructing fire line on the Saddleback Fire, Redding Smokejumper Luke Sheehy died from injuries suffered as a result of being struck by a falling portion of a tree. A local medevac helicopter flew him to a hospital in Alturas, California where he was pronounced dead. Smokejumper Sheehy, 28 years old, was based out of Redding, California.

The Saddleback fire started on the Modoc National Forest on June 10 when a lightning storm moved across the forest.

A Washington Office review team is in route to review the incident.

KIMBERLY H. ANDERSON  
Forest Supervisor

cc: Jeanne Wade Evans, Deputy Regional Forester  
Joe Millar, Director, FAM  
Arlen Cravens, Acting Assistant Director, FAM  
John Phipps, Review Team Leader, Washington Office  
Michelle Reugebrink, R5 Safety Manager  
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