

**National Interagency Coordination Center  
Incident Management Situation Report  
Tuesday, October 2, 2018 – 0530 MT  
National Preparedness Level 2**

**National Fire Activity**

Initial Attack Activity:	Light (34) new fires
New large incidents:	0
Large fires contained:	0
Uncontained large fires:**	15
Area Command teams committed:	0
NIMOs committed:	1
Type 1 IMTs committed:	2
Type 2 IMTs committed:	3

Nationally, there are 48 large 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.

<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>
AICC	0	0	0	0	0	0
NWCC	7	390,925	19	40	10	1,040
ONCC	2	63,554	25	61	9	1,188
OSCC	2	3,844	2	3	0	44
NRCC	4	29,371	1	11	1	124
GBCC	15	478,346	52	108	22	2,312
SWCC	1	200	0	2	0	10
RMCC	3	47,775	10	44	7	620
EACC	0	0	0	0	0	0
SACC	4	460	2	0	0	192
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>1,014,475</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>5,530</b>

**Great Basin Area (PL 3)**

New fires:	5
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	7
Type 1 IMT's committed:	2

**Range Two**, Elko County. Twenty miles southeast of Elko, NV. Timber, brush and short grass. Active fire behavior with single tree torching, group torching and backing. Structures threatened. Evacuations, road, area and trail closures in effect.

**Roosevelt**, Bridger-Teton NF. IMT 1 (Demasters). Thirty-two miles south of Jackson, WY. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, road, area and trail closures in effect.

**Pole Creek**, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache NF. IMT 1 (McGowan). IMT is also managing the Bald Mountain incident. Twelve miles northeast of Nephi, UT. Timber. Minimal fire behavior. Numerous residences and energy infrastructure threatened. Evacuations, road, area and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

**Bald Mountain**, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache NF. Seven miles northeast of Mona, UT. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior. Structures and energy infrastructure threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

**Mirror Lake Complex**, (2 fires), Uinta-Wasatch-Cache NF. Transfer of command from IMT 2 (Roide) back to the local unit occurred yesterday. Thirteen miles east of Kamas, UT. Timber, brush and light logging slash. Active fire behavior with short-range spotting, uphill runs and torching. Structures and energy infrastructure threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

**Marten Creek**, Bridger-Teton NF. Thirteen miles east of Afton, WY. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Range Two	NV-ECFX	8,870	3,870	10	Ctn	10/10	326	142	9	24	3	7	1.1M	CNTY
Roosevelt	WY-BTF	61,448	514	75	Ctn	10/10	809	-300	18	40	4	57	21M	FS
Pole Creek	UT-UWF	102,188	0	83	Ctn	10/10	613	-142	17	15	8	1	27.4M	FS
Bald Mountain	UT-UWF	18,620	0	99	Ctn	UNK	178	-53	3	9	0	1	10.6M	FS
Mirror Lake Complex	UT-UWF	5,592	455	10	Ctn	10/31	146	-60	2	4	5	0	2.6M	FS
Marten Creek	WY-BTF	6,491	5	95	Ctn	11/5	51	-250	0	4	0	0	5M	FS
Large Fires Being Managed With a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Prospect	ID-SCF	7,024	0	0	Comp	10/20	65	-27	2	1	2	1	250K	FS
Yellow Mountain	WY-BTF	553	---	0	Comp	11/01	5	---	0	0	1	0	7K	FS
Bum Creek	ID-PAF	5,340	---	0	Comp	10/15	11	---	0	0	1	0	30K	FS
Lonely	UT-BRP	872	---	2	Comp	10/15	1	---	0	0	0	0	60K	NPS
Riggs	UT-DIF	1,281	---	7	Comp	10/15	12	---	0	2	0	0	290K	FS
Rabbit Foot	ID-SCF	36,004	---	82	Comp	10/23	24	---	0	2	1	0	23.9M	FS
Stewart Creek	ID-STF	5,295	---	62	Comp	UNK	4	---	0	0	0	0	13M	FS
Pistol	ID-SCF	457	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	8K	FS
Goshute Cave	NV-ELD	32,215	---	98	Comp	10/15	1	---	0	0	0	0	6.1M	BLM
Wapiti	ID-BOF	4,571	---	80	Comp	UNK	0	---	0	0	0	4	2.6M	FS

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Bible Back	ID-STF	3,600	---	66	Comp	10/31	5	---	0	0	1	0	500K	FS
Bear Trap	UT-UOA	12,246	---	35	Comp	10/31	2	---	0	0	0	0	1.3M	BIA
Pole Canyon	UT-FIF	360	---	80	Comp	10/31	5	---	0	1	0	0	110K	FS
Caton	ID-PAF	630	---	0	Comp	10/15	0	---	0	0	0	0	234K	FS

SCF – Salmon-Challis NF    BRP – Bryce Canyon National Park, NPS    DIF – Dixie NF    FIF – Fishlake NF    STF – Sawtooth NF  
PAF – Payette NF    ELD – Ely District Office, BLM    BOF – Boise NF    UOA – Uintah and Ouray Agency, BIA

### **Northwest Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 3  
New large incidents: 0  
Uncontained large fires: 4  
Type 2 IMTs committed: 2

**Klondike**, Rogue River-Siskiyou NF. IMT 2 (Gales and Harrod). Nine miles northwest of Selma, OR. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior. Numerous structures threatened. Evacuations, road and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

**Natchez**, Rogue River-Siskiyou NF. Fifteen miles southeast of Cave Junction, OR. Timber, brush and hardwood litter. Minimal fire behavior. Road, area and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

**Cougar Creek**, Okanogan-Wenatchee NF. Twelve miles northwest of Ardenvoir, WA. Timber, brush and short grass. Minimal fire behavior. Road, area and trail closures in effect.

**Miles**, Umpqua NF. Five miles northeast of Trail, OR. Timber. No new information.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Klondike	OR-RSF	167,033	0	72	Ctn	10/31	530	-35	11	24	5	0	83.4M	FS
Natchez	OR-RSF	38,134	0	84	Ctn	10/15	37	-19	0	2	4	0	43.6M	FS
Cougar Creek	WA-OWF	42,712	0	91	Ctn	10/31	53	-20	1	2	0	0	41.9M	FS
Miles	OR-UPF	54,334	---	82	Ctn	10/15	152	---	3	4	0	0	95.8M	FS
Large Fires Being Managed With a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Terwilliger	OR-WIF	11,445	0	80	Comp	10/31	189	3	3	7	2	1	20.9M	FS
Crescent Mountain	WA-OWF	52,609	---	86	Comp	10/22	69	---	1	1	0	0	40.7M	FS
McLeod	WA-OWF	24,411	---	91	Comp	UNK	10	---	0	0	0	0	14.2M	FS
Holman	WA-OWF	302	---	0	Comp	10/20	0	---	0	0	0	0	NR	FS
Miriam	WA-OWF	3,400	---	50	Comp	UNK	4	---	0	1	0	0	14.2M	FS
Maple	WA-OLF	3,300	---	60	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	4.6M	FS
Wrong Creek	WA-MSF	423	---	0	Comp	10/15	1	---	0	0	0	0	712K	FS
Bannock Lakes	WA-OWF	497	---	0	Comp	12/2	0	---	0	0	0	0	44K	FS
Little Fork	WA-NCP	425	---	0	Comp	UNK	0	---	0	0	0	0	25K	NPS
Arctic Jim	WA-NCP	880	---	0	Comp	UNK	0	---	0	0	0	0	30K	NPS
Clear Fork	WA-GPF	121	---	25	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	478K	FS

WIF – Willamette NF    OLF – Olympic NF    NCP – North Cascades National Park, NPS    MSF – Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie NF  
GPF – Gifford-Pinchot NF

**Northern California Area (PL 3)**

New fires: 13  
 New large incidents: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 2  
 Type 2 IMTs committed: 1

**Delta**, Shasta-Trinity NF. IMT 2 (Coots). Two miles north of Lakehead, CA. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened. Road, area and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

**Wilson**, Lassen NF. Four miles east of Mill Creek, CA. Timber and logging slash. Minimal fire behavior. Structures threatened.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Delta	CA-SHF	63,293	0	97	Ctn	10/8	965	37	21	42	8	45	53.4M	FS
Wilson	CA-LNF	261	0	60	Ctn	10/8	223	-171	4	19	1	1	650K	FS

**Rocky Mountain Area (PL 2)**

New fires: 1  
 New large incidents: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 2  
 NIMOs committed: 1

**Ryan**, Medicine Bow-Routt NF. NIMO (Quisenberry). IMT is also managing the Silver Creek incident. Twenty-seven miles northwest of Walden, CO. Timber and short grass. Active fire behavior with group torching and running. Structures, communication infrastructure and sage-grouse habitat threatened. Evacuations, road and area closures in effect.

**Silver Creek**, Medicine Bow-Routt NF. Sixteen miles northwest of Kremmling, CO. Timber, brush and short grass. Moderate fire behavior with backing, creeping and single tree torching. Road, area and trail closures in effect. Precipitation occurred over the fire area yesterday.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Ryan	WY-MRF	27,554	3,775	35	Ctn	10/15	360	9	4	29	4	12	5.2M	FS
Silver Creek	WY-MRF	20,048	1,033	60	Ctn	11/1	251	-39	6	15	2	0	25.7M	FS
Large Fires Being Managed With a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Cabin Lake	CO-WRF	5,975	---	98	Comp	10/6	0	---	0	0	0	0	13.1M	FS
Horse	CO-SJF	705	---	70	Comp	10/10	56	---	1	2	1	0	2.9M	FS
Bull Draw	CO-UPD	36,520	---	95	Comp	10/8	46	---	1	1	1	1	12M	BLM
Weston Pass	CO-PSF	13,023	---	98	Comp	UNK	5	---	0	1	0	1	9.7M	FS
Cache Creek	CO-WRF	2,703	---	55	Comp	10/7	0	---	0	0	0	1	6.3M	FS

WRF – White River NF      SJF – San Juan NF      UPD – Uncompahgre Field Office, BLM      PSF – Pike-San Isabel NF

**Northern Rockies Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 2  
 New large incidents: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 0

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Large Fires Being Managed With a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Howe Ridge	MT-GNP	14,522	---	80	Comp	11/1	13	---	0	1	0	27	13.8M	NPS
Boundary	MT-GNP	2,911	---	85	Comp	10/16	0	---	0	0	0	0	922K	NPS
Juliet	MT-FNF	2,519	---	0	Comp	10/21	2	---	0	0	0	0	40K	FS
Stadium	MT-FNF	285	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	15K	FS
Brownstone	MT-FNF	4,071	---	0	Comp	UNK	6	---	0	0	0	0	65K	FS
Rampike	ID-IPF	3,100	---	0	Comp	11/30	15	---	0	1	0	0	1M	FS
Gold Hill	MT-KNF	6,602	---	50	Comp	11/1	4	---	0	1	0	0	16M	FS
Surprise Creek	ID-IPF	3,300	---	78	Comp	10/12	2	---	0	0	0	0	2.5M	FS
Bacon Rind	MT-CGF	5,232	---	26	Comp	10/15	49	---	1	5	0	0	3.9M	FS
Davis	MT-KNF	6,614	---	50	Comp	10/31	4	---	0	0	0	0	13.2M	FS
Moose Creek	MT-HLF	425	---	0	Comp	10/31	3	---	0	0	0	0	30K	FS
Smith Creek	ID-IPF	1,115	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	300K	FS
Cougar	ID-IPF	7,871	---	85	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	5M	FS
Copper Mountain	ID-IPF	473	---	23	Comp	10/31	2	---	0	0	0	0	2M	FS
Beaver Creek	MT-BDF	2,090	---	35	Comp	10/15	9	---	0	0	0	0	1M	FS

GNP – Glacier NP    KNF – Kootenai NF    IPF – Idaho Panhandle NF    BDF – Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF    FNF – Flathead NF  
 CGF – Custer-Gallatin NF    HLF – Helena-Lewis and Clark NF

**Southern California Area (PL 2)**

New fires: 7  
 New large incidents: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 0

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Large Fires Being Managed With a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Indian	CA-YNP	104	---	0	Comp	12/1	33	---	2	1	0	0	35K	NPS

YNP – Yosemite NP

**Southwest Area (PL 1)**

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

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Large Fires Being Managed With a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Rhino	AZ-COF	856	---	60	Comp	11/30	1	---	0	0	0	0	70K	FS
Cat	AZ-KNF	4,591	---	0	Comp	11/15	35	---	0	1	0	0	610K	FS

KNF – Kaibab NF      COF – Coconino NF

**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	1	2	3
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	13	0	13
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	5	60	65
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	6	1	7
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Great Basin Area	FIRES	1	1	0	0	0	3	5
	ACRES	5	0	0	0	3,890	2,965	6,860
Southwest Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	ACRES	0	44	0	0	580	965	1,589
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
<b>TOTAL FIRES:</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>TOTAL ACRES:</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,488</b>	<b>3,991</b>	<b>8,528</b>

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

Area		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	120	0	0	202	32	354
	ACRES	0	362,459	0	0	46,024	63	408,546
Northwest Area	FIRES	297	234	34	36	1,305	831	2,737
	ACRES	25,339	272,948	4,744	4,332	158,145	355,158	820,668
Northern California Area	FIRES	70	21	3	34	2,477	403	3,008
	ACRES	3,707	2,886	7	42,981	743,719	521,011	1,314,311
Southern California Area	FIRES	42	70	5	47	3,206	362	3,732
	ACRES	707	1,515	5	11,770	42,902	158,978	215,878
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	775	57	4	17	751	449	2,053
	ACRES	7,285	929	2,938	20,149	20,539	75,354	127,194
Great Basin Area	FIRES	39	910	4	35	1,035	518	2,541
	ACRES	19,456	1,114,568	0	863	471,310	611,742	2,217,940
Southwest Area	FIRES	697	239	9	58	798	1,257	3,058
	ACRES	33,060	5,475	426	17,550	293,203	177,566	527,280
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	418	518	9	37	909	463	2,354
	ACRES	4,214	141,100	1,713	282	379,719	207,538	734,566
Eastern Area	FIRES	464	0	19	25	4,330	367	5,205
	ACRES	4,155	0	1,035	190	27,665	7,241	40,286
Southern Area	FIRES	442	67	41	57	23,437	346	24,390
	ACRES	118,199	310	8,682	21,040	1,171,463	28,813	1,348,508
<b>TOTAL FIRES:</b>		<b>3,244</b>	<b>2,236</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>38,450</b>	<b>5,028</b>	<b>49,432</b>
<b>TOTAL ACRES:</b>		<b>216,123</b>	<b>1,902,192</b>	<b>19,550</b>	<b>119,157</b>	<b>3,354,691</b>	<b>2,143,466</b>	<b>7,755,181</b>

<b>Ten Year Average Fires (2008 – 2017 as of today)</b>	<b>52,934</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres (2008 – 2017 as of today)</b>	<b>5,943,527</b>



**Prescribed Fires and Acres Yesterday (by Ownership):**

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	0	1	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	139	139
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
	ACRES	40	0	0	0	0	0	40
Great Basin Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	10	175	185
Southwest Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	8	8
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southern Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	60	0	60
<b>TOTAL FIRES:</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>TOTAL ACRES:</b>		<b>40</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>432</b>

### Prescribed Fires and Acres Year-to-Date (by Ownership)

Areas		BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	ST/OT	USFS	TOTAL
Alaska Area	FIRES	0	0	3	0	11	1	15
	ACRES	0	0	56	0	36,158	70	36,284
Northwest Area	FIRES	30	31	24	9	3	182	279
	ACRES	5,917	5,785	5,010	416	24	51,804	68,956
Northern California Area	FIRES	2	3	9	16	1	128	159
	ACRES	12	1,792	5,627	1,938	35	18,067	27,471
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	2	3	2	0	130	137
	ACRES	0	90	405	48	0	12,622	13,165
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	12	16	41	3	12	182	266
	ACRES	3,766	12,505	10,626	12,203	548	24,860	64,508
Great Basin Area	FIRES	2	20	4	5	32	77	140
	ACRES	75	2,287	40	1,867	2,454	23,318	30,041
Southwest Area	FIRES	14	15	7	4	8	151	199
	ACRES	4,052	12,963	204	836	804	86,625	105,484
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	34	40	26	9	87	117	313
	ACRES	2,980	4,710	15,597	263	9,597	51,859	85,006
Eastern Area	FIRES	57	0	217	29	1,143	246	1,692
	ACRES	32,016	0	29,930	7,669	119,189	73,313	262,117
Southern Area	FIRES	75	0	167	29	69,649	992	70,912
	ACRES	19,100	0	141,226	120,642	2,455,584	975,609	3,712,161
TOTAL FIRES:		226	127	501	106	70,946	2,206	74,112
TOTAL ACRES:		67,918	40,132	208,721	145,882	2,624,393	1,318,147	4,405,194

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

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

**Predictive Service Discussion:** Widespread wetting rainfall is expected across the Four Corner states, the Great Basin, and Wyoming, as the remnants of Rosa move northeast and are absorbed into a cold front moving east across the northern Great Plains. Low pressure off the California coast will begin to move onshore into southern California, increasing the shower activity there and across Nevada. By evening, showers will increase across the Great Lakes Region as moisture from the approaching front over the Plains begins to stream in from the West. The Southeast and Mid-Atlantic States will remain warm and dry under the high pressure ridge.

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



**This Day in History is a brief 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 what the outcome will be. What are the conditions? What are you thinking? What are YOU doing?**

## Grant West RX

**Incident Summary:** October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2004, a prescribed fire is planned in the Grant Grove Sub District of Kings Canyon National Park. This park has long been known for its active prescribed fire program and, since 1981, has been home to the Arrowhead Hotshots. The unit being burned this day has been burned several times before. The predominant tree in this unit is White Fir, a high-risk species, which had suffered a considerable die-off due to a Tussock Moth infestation. The unit has been prepped and hose-lays installed. Numerous snags along the line have been evaluated for firefighter safety and holding concerns. Some hazard trees were cut down or lined. One white fir snag about 146 feet tall and 12 feet inside the line was considered sound by experienced firefighters and is left standing. Torching brush and short trees during the test burn send embers into the top of the snag and within minutes smoke and then flames are observed. The snag has become a hazard and a holding concern and it is decided that it needs to be felled. Class C-fallers are called over to size-up the tree; Daniel Holmes, an Arrowhead Hotshot, is the swamper. Because of its lean, it is decided to drop it across the line and to move the hose-lay so that it can 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 so that they can then cut the tree. Several firefighters see the top of the snag fall and yell. They start to run but the falling tree top hits Holmes on the head and he is knocked out. He never regains consciousness.

To that date, Daniel Holmes would be the 20<sup>th</sup> firefighter killed by a snag since 1960.

### Discussion Points:

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

- If you were giving your crew a briefing about hazard trees in **your** area, what are your emphasis points?

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 there?
- Discuss how you will determine the soundness of 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 only 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 this tragic accident?



*Arrowhead Hotshot Daniel Holmes – 2004*

### Resources

[Holmes Accident Investigation and other documents](#)  
[Hazard Tree Subcommittee website](#)

**Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.**

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