

**National Interagency Coordination Center  
Incident Management Situation Report  
Saturday, October 2, 2021 – 0730 MDT  
National Preparedness Level 3**

Initial attack activity:	Light (44 fires)
New large incidents:	0
Large fires contained:	0
Uncontained large fires: ***	35
NIMOs committed:	0
Type 1 IMTs committed:	4
Type 2 IMTs committed:	9

Nationally, there are 31 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.

One RC-26 aircraft with Distributed Real-Time Infrared (DRTI) capability and support personnel from the 141st Air Refueling Wing (Washington Air National Guard) has been deployed to Sacramento, CA in support of wildland fire operations. Also supporting this aircraft are four ground controllers from multiple U.S. Air National Guard squadrons.

Active Incident Resource Summary							
GACC	Incidents	Cumulative Acres	Crews	Engines	Helicopters	Total Personnel	Change in Personnel
AICC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NWCC	12	570,823	36	65	11	1,761	-281
ONCC	7	1,854,472	103	270	44	5,475	-551
OSCC	3	170,852	88	198	36	3,739	-284
NRCC	24	295,180	21	54	9	1,135	-22
GBCC	2	86,227	2	1	2	80	-3
SWCC	1	395	2	3	0	58	0
RMCC	3	10,266	0	2	2	40	1
EACC	0	26,797	0	0	0	0	0
SACC	6	2,664	1	41	1	107	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>3,017,678.05</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>12,395</b>	<b>-1,140</b>

**Northern California Area (PL 3)**

New fires:	12
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	7
Type 1 IMTs committed:	2
Type 2 IMTs committed:	5

**Caldor**, Eldorado NF, USFS. IMT 2 (CA Team 13). Sixteen miles northeast of Plymouth, CA. Timber, light slash and brush. Minimal fire behavior with backing, creeping and smoldering. Several communities, numerous structures and infrastructure threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Dixie**, Butte Unit, Cal Fire. IMT 2 (SA Gold Team) and IMT 2 (GB Team 3). Fifteen miles northeast of Paradise, CA. Timber and brush. Moderate fire behavior with backing, creeping and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**River Complex**, Klamath NF, USFS. IMT 2 (CA Team 15). Nine miles southwest of Etna, CA. Timber and brush. Moderate fire behavior with flanking, single tree torching and backing. Several communities, numerous structures and infrastructure threatened. Area and trail closures in effect.

**Monument**, Shasta-Trinity NF, USFS. IMT 1 (SA Red Team). One mile southwest of Del Loma, CA. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering, creeping and backing. Community of Trinity Village, numerous structures and infrastructure threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**McCash**, Six Rivers NF, USFS. IMT 1 (AK Team 1). IMT 2 (CA Team 10) mobilizing. Fourteen miles northeast of Somes Bar, CA. Timber, closed timber litter and brush. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Evacuations, area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Fawn**, Shasta-Trinity Unit, Cal Fire. Two miles northeast of Shasta Lake City, CA. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior.

**Antelope**, Klamath NF, USFS. Twenty miles northeast of McCloud, CA. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with backing, creeping and smoldering. Structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Caldor	CA-ENF	221,775	0	91	Ctn	10/16	1,589	122	36	96	10	1,003	244M	FS
Dixie	CA-BTU	963,309	0	94	Ctn	10/30	1,617	12	27	93	10	1,329	601M	ST
River Complex	CA-KNF	198,663	0	69	Ctn	11/1	721	-40	18	13	13	122	81.2M	FS
Monument	CA-SHF	223,001	0	79	Ctn	11/1	690	-63	11	30	3	50	150M	FS
McCash	CA-SRF	93,514	269	61	Ctn	10/31	507	-73	7	13	6	0	41.1M	FS
Fawn	CA-SHU	8,578	0	90	Ctn	10/3	94	-503	0	10	1	185	25.6M	ST
Antelope	CA-KNF	145,632	0	95	Ctn	10/7	257	-6	4	15	2	18	68.6M	FS

**Southern California Area (PL 3)**

New fires:	6
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	3
Type 1 IMTs committed:	2

**KNP Complex** (2 fires), Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks, NPS. IMT 1 (SW Team 2). Nine miles northeast of Three Rivers, CA. Timber. Extreme fire behavior with uphill runs and group torching. Numerous residences and infrastructure threatened. Evacuations, area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Windy**, Tule River Fire Department, BIA. IMT 1 (CA Team 5). Twenty-two miles east of Porterville, CA. Timber and brush. Active fire behavior with uphill runs, single tree torching and spotting. Several communities, numerous structures and infrastructure threatened. Evacuations, area, road and trail closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
KNP Complex	CA-KNP	54,168	4,672	20	Ctn	10/31	1,368	-126	22	66	19	2	34.1M	NPS
Windy	CA-TIA	90,149	345	42	Ctn	10/14	2,342	-158	66	128	17	30	42M	BIA
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Tiltill	CA-YNP	2,323	---	90	Comp	10/22	0	---	0	0	0	0	900K	NPS

YNP – Yosemite NP, NPS

### **Northwest Area (PL 3)**

New fires:	1
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	11
Type 2 IMTs committed:	2

**Cougar Peak**, Fremont-Winema NF, USFS. IMT 2 (NW Team 12). Fifteen miles northwest of Lakeview, OR. Timber, brush and medium slash. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Rough Patch Complex** (4 fires), Umpqua NF, USFS. IMT 2 (RM Blue Team). IMT is also managing the Jack incident. Eighteen miles southwest of Oakridge, OR. Closed timber litter and timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Jack**, Umpqua NF, USFS. Thirty-one miles east of Roseburg, OR. Closed timber litter and timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Devil's Knob Complex**, Umpqua NF, USFS. Twenty miles northeast of Azalea, OR. Timber and hardwood litter. Minimal fire behavior with backing, creeping and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Schneider Springs**, Okanogan-Wenatchee NF, USFS. Eighteen miles northwest of Naches, WA. Short grass, timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering and creeping. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Bull Complex**, Mt. Hood NF, USFS. Twenty-five miles northeast of Mill City, OR. Timber and closed timber litter. Moderate fire behavior with backing, creeping and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Twenty-five Mile**, Okanogan-Wenatchee NF, USFS. Twelve miles northwest of Chelan, WA. Short grass, brush and timber. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Middle Fork Complex**, Willamette NF, USFS. Nine miles northeast of Oakridge, OR. Timber and light slash. Minimal fire behavior. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Cougar Peak	OR-FWF	91,795	0	85	Ctn	10/5	284	-133	4	14	1	10	25.5M	FS
Rough Patch Complex	OR-UPF	50,426	0	71	Ctn	10/31	294	-45	8	8	4	0	46.3M	FS
Jack	OR-UPF	24,165	0	83	Ctn	10/31	4	0	0	1	0	0	44.2M	FS
Devils Knob Complex	OR-UPF	70,110	0	58	Ctn	10/31	372	-37	9	8	0	1	58.1M	FS

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Schneider Springs	WA-OWF	107,118	0	55	Ctn	10/31	235	-45	4	15	0	0	53.5M	FS
Bull Complex	OR-MHF	24,894	0	20	Ctn	10/30	237	0	4	2	2	1	31.8M	FS0
Twenty-five Mile	WA-OWF	22,117	0	63	Ctn	10/30	50	-1	1	2	1	14	31.9M	FS
Middle Fork Complex	OR-WIF	30,928	0	55	Ctn	10/31	116	-20	1	4	1	0	55M	FS
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Pincer Creek	WA-MSF	980	---	0	Comp	UNK	1	---	0	0	0	0	92K	FS
Nason	WA-OWF	1,321	---	90	Comp	10/15	2	---	0	0	0	0	300K	FS

MSF – Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie NF, USFS

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

New fires:	6
New large incidents:	0
Uncontained large fires:	11
Type 2 IMTs committed:	2

**Haystack**, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, USFS. IMT 2 (GB Team 4). IMT is also managing the Placer incident. Ten miles northeast of Butte, MT. Timber and brush. Moderate fire behavior with flanking, creeping and group torching. Numerous structures threatened. Area closures in effect.

**Placer**, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, USFS. Eleven miles east of Butte, MT. Timber and brush. Moderate fire behavior with backing, creeping and isolated torching.

**Trail Creek**, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, USFS. IMT 2 (NR Team 4). IMT is also managing the Alder Creek incident. Twenty miles west of Wisdom, MT. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Structures threatened. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Alder Creek**, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF, USFS. Seven miles west of Wise River, MT. Timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior with creeping and smoldering. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Cougar Rock Complex** (3 fires), Clearwater Potlatch Timber Protective Association, IDL. Seventeen miles northeast of Elk River, ID. Light slash and timber. Minimal fire behavior.

**American Fork**, Helena-Lewis and Clark NF, USFS. Twenty-four miles southwest of Harlowton, MT. Short grass, timber and brush. Minimal fire behavior. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

**Stateline Complex** (7 fires), Idaho Panhandle NF, USFS. Twenty-two miles southwest of Superior, MT. Closed timber litter, timber and light slash. Minimal fire behavior. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Haystack	MT-BDF	18,490	1,481	52	Comp	10/31	473	24	11	16	4	2	7.1M	FS
Placer	MT-BDF	148	8	67	Comp	10/31	10	0	0	0	0	0	125K	FS
Trail Creek	MT-BDF	61,980	2	67	Comp	11/1	374	-5	7	18	2	0	32.2M	FS
Alder Creek	MT-BDF	36,696	44	43	Comp	11/1	27	-1	0	1	2	1	31.5M	FS
Cougar Rock Complex	ID-CTS	8,207	0	77	Ctn	UNK	1	0	0	0	0	0	18.8M	ST

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
American Fork	MT-HLF	21,892	0	90	Ctn	10/15	28	-7	0	0	0	0	10.5M	FS
Stateline Complex	ID-IPF	13,199	0	50	Ctn	11/1	46	0	0	0	0	0	21.6M	FS
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Spire	MT-FNF	130	---	0	Comp	10/31	5	---	0	0	0	0	24K	FS
Dry Cabin	MT-LNF	3,600	---	0	Comp	10/10	6	---	0	0	0	0	180K	FS
Swanson Creek	ID-NCF	1,010	---	40	Comp	10/10	4	---	0	1	0	0	300K	FS
Storm Theatre Complex	ID-NCF	22,370	---	80	Comp	10/15	5	---	0	0	0	0	1.8M	FS
Trestle Creek Complex	ID-IPF	6,631	---	99	Comp	10/15	6	---	0	0	0	0	14.2M	FS
Cabin Creek	ID-IPF	146	---	0	Comp	10/15	0	---	0	0	0	0	500K	FS
Dixie	ID-NCF	43,802	---	63	Comp	10/30	4	---	0	1	0	0	29.1M	FS
Lynx	ID-NCF	12,096	---	0	Comp	10/30	0	---	0	0	0	0	270K	FS
Jumbo	ID-NCF	3,283	---	46	Comp	10/30	0	---	0	0	0	0	75K	FS
Woods Creek	MT-HLF	55,449	---	89	Comp	10/31	28	---	0	3	0	1	26.8M	FS
Army Mule	ID-NCF	3,885	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	8K	FS
Greenside Butte	ID-NCF	725	---	0	Comp	10/31	0	---	0	0	0	0	13K	FS
Porphyry	ID-NCF	142	---	0	Comp	10/31	1	---	0	0	0	0	NR	FS
Sheep Creek	ID-NCF	8,150	---	0	Comp	11/30	0	---	0	0	0	0	250K	FS

FNF – Flathead NF, USFS    LNF – Lolo NF, USFS    NCF – Nez Perce-Clearwater NF, USFS

### **Rocky Mountain Area (PL 2)**

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

**Sand Creek**, Shoshone NF, USFS. Thirteen miles west of Lander, WY. Timber, short grass and brush. Minimal fire behavior with smoldering. Residences threatened.

**Crater Ridge**, Bighorn NF, USFS. Thirty-one miles west of Sheridan, WY. Timber, heavy slash and short grass. Moderate fire behavior with creeping, smoldering and isolated torching. Area, road and trail closures in effect.

Incident Name	Unit	Size		%	Ctn/ Comp	Est	Personnel		Resources			Strc Lost	\$\$ CTD	Origin Own
		Acres	Chge				Total	Chge	Crw	Eng	Heli			
Sand Creek	WY-SHF	929	0	95	Ctn	10/4	6	1	0	0	0	0	3.6M	FS
Crater Ridge	WY-BHF	7,537	87	70	Ctn	10/9	34	0	0	2	2	1	15M	FS
Large Fires Being Managed with a Strategy Other Than Full Suppression Without a Type 1 or 2 IMT Assigned														
Black Mountain	WY-MRF	418	---	91	Comp	10/31	8	---	0	1	1	0	3.5M	FS
Morgan Creek	WY-MRF	7,586	---	36	Comp	10/31	24	---	0	1	1	0	12.5M	FS
Sylvan	CO-WRF	3,792	---	90	Comp	UNK	0	---	0	0	0	0	8M	FS

MRF – Medicine Bow-Routt NF and Thunder Basin National Grassland, USFS    WRF – White River NF, USFS

**Great Basin (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														
Boundary	ID-SCF	84,756	221	68	Comp	10/30	79	-3	2	1	2	5	11.2M	FS
Southern Bench	NV-NTE	21,000	---	0	Comp	10/1	0	---	0	0	0	0	1K	DOE
Tamarack	NV-HTF	68,637	---	84	Comp	10/15	7	---	0	0	1	25	34.9M	FS
Rush Creek	ID-PAF	9,581	---	83	Comp	10/15	0	---	0	0	0	0	375K	FS
Club	ID-PAF	4,058	---	67	Comp	10/15	0	---	0	0	0	0	333K	FS
Vinegar	ID-PAF	2,998	---	84	Comp	10/15	5	---	0	0	0	0	276K	FS
Mud Lick	ID-SCF	20,856	---	70	Comp	10/19	1	---	0	0	0	0	25M	FS

SCF – Salmon-Challis NF, USFS    NTE – Nevada National Security Site, DOD    HTF – Humboldt-Toiyabe NF, USFS  
 PAF – Payette NF, USFS

**Southern Area (PL 1)**

New fires: 11  
 New large incidents: 0  
 Uncontained large fires: 1

**Irving**, Wewoka Agency, BIA. Five miles southwest of Cromwell, OK. Hardwood litter and tall grass. 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			
Irving	OK-WEA	832	---	60	Ctn	10/5	71	---	1	25	1	1	100K	BIA

**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	0	1
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern California Area	FIRES	0	1	0	0	10	1	12
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	44	100	144
Southern California Area	FIRES	0	0	2	0	4	0	6
	ACRES	725	0	2	0	14	397	1,138
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	4	0	0	0	1	1	6
	ACRES	14	0	0	0	2	7,160	7,176
Great Basin Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	5	2	7
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	1	11,839	11,840
Southwest Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	ACRES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	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	1	0	0	0	10	0	11
	ACRES	100	0	0	0	3	0	103
<b>TOTAL FIRES:</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>TOTAL ACRES:</b>		<b>839</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>19,496</b>	<b>20,401</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	116	0	0	249	19	<b>384</b>
	ACRES	0	157,619	0	0	95,732	6	<b>253,357</b>
Northwest Area	FIRES	209	291	33	17	2,129	643	<b>3,322</b>
	ACRES	148,049	6,116	13,294	1,041	167,348	758,468	<b>1,094,316</b>
Northern California Area	FIRES	61	39	5	23	2,984	519	<b>3,631</b>
	ACRES	286	296	351	12,566	448,770	1,188,287	<b>1,650,556</b>
Southern California Area	FIRES	20	117	14	87	3,729	548	<b>4,515</b>
	ACRES	16,013	6,804	201	57,893	20,443	142,937	<b>244,291</b>
Northern Rockies Area	FIRES	1,300	102	23	5	1,470	786	<b>3,686</b>
	ACRES	121,513	31,694	2,755	51	459,609	405,474	<b>1,021,096</b>
Great Basin Area	FIRES	51	766	55	30	864	570	<b>2,336</b>
	ACRES	3,324	78,642	10	1,703	91,563	199,928	<b>375,170</b>
Southwest Area	FIRES	656	201	11	35	356	972	<b>2,231</b>
	ACRES	26,508	83,982	1,748	3,367	33,335	494,041	<b>642,981</b>
Rocky Mountain Area	FIRES	681	446	6	27	706	384	<b>2,250</b>
	ACRES	10,428	26,278	1,260	1,118	119,517	33,720	<b>192,321</b>
Eastern Area	FIRES	566	0	51	32	7,562	471	<b>8,682</b>
	ACRES	12,730	0	14,381	1,174	35,197	44,615	<b>108,097</b>
Southern Area	FIRES	467	0	59	43	14,430	423	<b>15,422</b>
	ACRES	30,323	0	11,882	8,497	279,925	27,731	<b>358,358</b>
<b>TOTAL FIRES:</b>		<b>4,011</b>	<b>2,078</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>34,479</b>	<b>5,335</b>	<b>46,459</b>
<b>TOTAL ACRES:</b>		<b>369,174</b>	<b>391,431</b>	<b>45,884</b>	<b>87,410</b>	<b>1,751,441</b>	<b>3,295,207</b>	<b>5,940,547</b>

<b>Ten Year Average Fires (2011 – 2020 as of today)</b>	<b>46,818</b>
<b>Ten Year Average Acres (2011 – 2020 as of today)</b>	<b>6,584,965</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:** An upper low will likely become an open wave across the southern and central Plains and combine with a weak upper-level trough over the Midwest tonight. A deep upper low in the Gulf of Alaska will keep stronger westerly winds over Washington into northwest Montana, with weak upper-level ridging over the Intermountain West and a cutoff low off the southern California and Baja California coasts. A weak cold front is forecast to slowly move east into the Great Lakes and Mid-Mississippi Valley, with a thermal trough likely extending along the California coast into southwest Oregon. Light to breezy offshore winds are likely again across portions of southern California and may extend northward up the central California Coast Ranges. Low RH is expected over much of California, the western and northern Great Basin, western Arizona, and portions of southern and eastern Montana, with single digit relative humidity in portions of California and Nevada. Dry and breezy conditions are likely in north-central Montana due to downslope flow off the Northern Rockies. Above normal temperatures are expected across California, much of the northern Intermountain West, and the northern Plains into the Great Lakes. Scattered to widespread showers and thunderstorms are likely across the southern and central Plains into the Lower and Mid-Mississippi Valleys.

<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. Advanced Fallers (FAL1) 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 that snag hazards were emphasized several times.

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

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 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 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 3 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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