

Guy's Summer Vacation 2003

I just got back from two vacations. I took a few pictures so I thought I would share them with everybody.

The last vacation was 2 weeks of elk hunting in Colorado with my bow. Hiking around at 11,500 feet was fun but exhausting. I survived and so did all the elk.



The first vacation was a little different. I took two weeks of annual leave to go to Montana with the Forest Service to be a Safety Officer. I was assigned to the Ball Fire near Glacier National Park. Everything was going fine until I heard the "Rocky Boy #20" crew boss call "Medical Emergency- Clear the Tac Channel !!" Being the S.O. assigned to that division, I hustled over to find:



EMT's working on a fallen firefighter.

I left the medical stuff to the EMT's and began my investigation of the incident. It didn't take long to find out that a tree had fallen on Carl. The Forest Service calls these trees "snags" and by western standards this was a small "snag".



It had burned through at the base and fallen without warning or noise.



Carl the firefighter was hit on the back of the head and knocked down into the ashes.





Note the round hole above his left ear where a limb stub entered.

Carl was conscious but dazed. He was carried down the mountain on a stretcher and medivaced to a Kalispell, MT hospital.



Carl was in good enough shape to be sent to his home hospital two days after the accident.

What I learned on my summer vacation: **Keep that plastic hat on your head, it could save your life too!!**