

SAFETY GRAM



Accident/incident Summary: Fatalities and Entrapments 2000-01

The following data indicate the 2000 fatalities, entrapments* and entrapment-related injuries associated with wildland and prescribed fire operations. There were 20 fatalities and 81 firefighters entrapped. The information was collected by the NWCG Safety & Health Working Team, with confirmation from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

Date	Location	Type of Accident	Organization	Entrapped	Shelter Available	# Shelters Deployed	Injuries
Jan 1	Kimbling, MO	Heart Attack	Volunteer	n/a			1
Jan 22	LaPointe, IN	Vehicle	Volunteer	n/a			1
Feb 29	Atoka, OK	Vehicle	Volunteer	n/a			1
March 6	Delmont, SD	Entrapment, engine	Volunteer	3	no	0	1
March 8	Sioux Falls, SD	Entrapment	Volunteer	2	No	0	2 nd /3 rd degree burns
April 6	Eau Clair, WI	Entrapment, dozer	State	2	yes	0	
April 7	Kirbyville, TX	Vehicle, ATV	State	n/a			1

April 7	Winterset, IA	Flying debris	Volunteer	n/a				1
April 12	Merritt, FL	Vehicle fire	Volunteer	n/a				
April 29	Fairbanks, AK	Training jump	Federal	n/a				1
May 7	Cook Branch Fire, TX	Aviation, SEAT	Contractor	n/a				1
May 7	Cree Fire, NM	Entrapment, engine	Federal	3	yes	0		None
May 15	Alamogordo, NM	Aviation, fixed wing	Contractor/Federal	n/a				2
May 24	Ocala NF, FL	Engine accident	Federal	n/a				minor/severe
May 24	Clover Fire, AZ	Burnover, engine	Federal	3				None
June 4	Fort Meyers, FL	Aviation, helicopter	State	n/a				1
June 4	Buck Springs Fire, NV	Entrapment	State/Federal	34	yes			none
June 9	10 th Street Fire, FL	Entrapment, engine	Volunteer	2	no			none
June 13	Hight Meadow Fire, CO	Entrapment, engine	State	3	yes	0		smoke inhalation
July 1	Rabbit Valley Fire, UT	Entrapment, engine	Volunteer	2	no	0		none
July 9	Seneca Fire, NV	Entrapment, engine	Volunteer	3	yes	1		none
July 7	Prince Royal Fire, NV	Entrapment, dozer	Contractor	1	yes	0		minor burns
July 31	Clear Creek Fire, ID	Entrapment, engine	Federal	1	yes	0		minor burns
Aug 2	Pechanga Fire, CA	Entrapment, engine	State	4	yes	0		minor

Aug 3	Montello, NV	Helicopter 206	Federal	n/a			1
Aug 11	Kate s Basin Fire, WY	Entrapment, engine	Federal/State	2	yes	2	1
Aug 13	Twin Peaks, NV	Helicopter 412	Contractor	n/a			1
Aug 16	Oldroyd Complex, UT	Entrapment, engine	Contractor	3	yes	3	none
Aug 23	Jasper Fire, SD	Entrapment, engine	Federal	9	yes	5	none
Aug 23	N. Standbury, UT	Lightning	Contractor	n/a			2
Aug 25	Royal Gorge, FL	Entrapment, dozer/plow	State	1	yes	0	minor burns
Sep 3	Walthall Co., MS	Entrapment, dozer/plow	State	1	no	0	1
Sep 17	Elkins, WV	Heart Attack-Test	State	n/a			1
Oct 12	Wilberton, OK	Entrapment, dozer/plow	State	1	yes	0	2 nd /3 rd degree burns
Nov 1	Sundance, WY	Entrapment	Volunteer	1	no	0	1
Nov 16	Ft. McPherson, GA	Heart Attack-Training	Federal	n/a			1
				81		11	20

These accidents reinforce the need for being continually alert to the Situations That Shout Watch Out and ensuring that all of the 10 Standard Fire Fighting Orders are followed before initiating tactical operations. A simple concept to remember and share with crew members is L.C.E.S. The acronym stands for Lookouts, Communication, Escape Routes, and Safety Zones. If a fire crew has these four areas fully established and understood, they can anticipate a safer assignment.

Timely reporting of entrapments or fatalities is necessary. Completion of the Wildland Fire Entrapment/Fatality Initial Report (NFES 0869) accomplishes this need. This initial report is self explanatory and does not replace agency reporting or investigative responsibilities, policies or procedures.

The NWCG Safety & Health Working Team requests any Investigation Reports from agencies that experienced the above or other entrapments/ major accidents in 2000. Please mail reports to the following address: NWCG/SHWT Stan Palmer
National Interagency Fire Center
3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, ID 83705

or email them to: stan_palmer@nifc.blm.gov.