



TO :

FROM : National Wildfire Coordinating Group

REPLY TO : NWCG@nifc.gov

DATE : 10/04/2004

SUBJECT : SAFETY BULLETIN : Grant West Prescribed Fire, 24 Hour Report

Attached is the 24 hour report regarding the fatality on the Grant West Prescribed Fire. Please insure that it receives wide distribution within your agency.



24HrRpt_GrantWestRxFire.doc

24-Hour Report
Serious Accident Investigation Team
Team Lead – Jim Loach

Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks
October 3, 2004

Wildland firefighter Daniel Holmes, age 26, of Bellingham, Washington was killed yesterday when he was hit by a falling top of a dead tree on the Grant West Prescribed Fire in Kings Canyon National Park. He was a member of the Arrowhead Interagency Hotshot Crew. Daniel's family has been notified.

The accident occurred shortly after operations began at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 2. With a four-acre test burn ignited, the top of a white fir tree unexpectedly fell where firefighters were working, striking Holmes. Approximately 20 firefighters witnessed the accident and provided immediate medical assistance. Holmes was carried to a waiting ambulance by his fellow crewmembers, but died while being transported to a Lifeflight helicopter landing zone in the park. Daniel never regained consciousness after the accident and was pronounced dead by the Lifeflight medical crew out of Fresno, California.

A National Interagency Serious Accident Investigation Team is assembling in the park.

/s/ Jim Loach
10/03/04
1730 hrs.