



TO :

FROM : National Wildfire Coordinating Group

REPLY TO : NWCG@nifc.gov

DATE : 05/29/2007

SUBJECT : SAFETY BULLETIN : 24 Hour Report Pender County

Attached is the 24 Hour Report for the burnover accident/investigation which occurred on the Stag Road Fire in Pender County, NC. Please see that it receives wide distribution within your agency. When available, subsequent investigation documents, specifically the 72 Hour Report and the final, Factual Report, will be posted on the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center database for reviews and investigations (<http://www.wildfirelessons.net/Reviews.aspx>).



24 Hour Report Pender County 5-24-07.doc



North Carolina
Department of Environment and
Natural Resources

Michael F. Easley, Governor
William G. Ross Jr., Secretary



North Carolina
Division of Forest Resources

Wib Owen, Director

May 24, 2007

To: Jim Prevette, Fire Chief

Subject: 24 Hour Preliminary Briefing

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Location: Pender County

Date of Occurrence: May 23, 2007

Team Leader: Moreland Gueth

Mission: Investigate and report on burn over incident which occurred on the Stag Road Fire

Activity: Fire control

Number of Injured: 1

Number of Fatalities: 0

Narrative: On May 23, 2007 NC Division of Forest Resources and VFD personnel initial attacked the Stag Road fire in Pender County. Estimate of size at initial attack was 5 acres. Two tractor plows were plowing the Charlie Division in tandem. The lead tractor plow was breaking way for the second tractor plow, which was plowing. A Strike Team Leader and crewman were carrying the blackline behind the tractor plows. After backing up to clean out the fireline, the second forest fire equipment operator (FFEO) resumed forward progress, and at the same time, the fire flared up briefly and entered the open tractor cab. The intensity of the flare up forced the FFEO to jump off of the tractor on the side opposite the fire.

The STL and lead tractor plow FFEO went to the aid of the second FFEO. He was transported by EMS to New Hanover Memorial Hospital, where he was examined for injuries. His only injuries were minor burns to the neck, ear and eyebrow. An investigation team has been formed and is investigating the incident. Further reports will be forthcoming.

CC: Karen Patterson, NCDFR Safety Officer