



**TO :**  
**FROM :** National Wildfire Coordinating Group  
**REPLY TO :** NWCG@nifc.gov  
**DATE :** 07/29/2008  
**SUBJECT :** SAFETY BULLETIN : Panther Fire - 24 Hour Report

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**Attached is the 24 hour report regarding a firefighter fatality on the Panther Fire in California. Please see that it receives wide distribution within your agency. When available, other 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/Home.aspx>).**



Panther 24 hour.doc

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United States  
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**File Code:** 6700  
**Route To:**

**Date:** July 27, 2008

**Subject:** Preliminary 24-hour Briefing of Panther Fire Fatality

**To:** Regional Forester

**THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

**Location:** Panther Fire, Happy Camp RD, Klamath NF, California

**Date of occurrence:** July 26, 2008

**Time of occurrence:** Approximately 1515 Hours

**Team leader:** Jim Reaves

**Mission:** Fire Suppression

**Activity:** Scouting fire for Type I team take-over the following day

**Number injured:** None

**Number of fatalities:** One

**Narrative:** The Panther fire was a Type III, 250 acre event. It was being scouted by personnel from the Type I team that was slated to take it over at 0600 the following day. At approximately 1515 hours, two individuals assigned from the Type I team were overrun by the fire front. One fatality resulted, the other individual was not injured. Accident occurred in 1987 burn scar with brush under hardwood/conifer overstory.

A serious accident investigation team has been ordered to for this incident.

/s/ Patricia A. Grantham  
PATRICIA A. GRANTHAM  
Forest Supervisor

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