



TO :

FROM : National Wildfire Coordinating Group

REPLY TO : NWCG@nifc.gov

DATE : 08/22/2008

SUBJECT : SAFETY BULLETIN : Bradley Falls Fire - 24 Hour Report

Attached is the 24 hour report regarding a firefighter fatality on the Bradley Falls fire in North Carolina. 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>).



Bradley Falls 24hr Brief.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 L. Owen, Director

TO: Jim Prevette

Subject: 24 Hour Briefing

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Location: Polk County, North Carolina

Date of Occurrence: August 21, 2008

Preliminary Factual Findings: While scouting fire line individual fell sustaining fatal injuries.

Narrative: On August 21, 2008 NC Division of Forest Resources (NCDFR) and NC Wildlife Resource Commission personnel were performing a holding action on the Bradley Falls Fire in Polk County. The fire was a 1/10th acre in size and located in and around rock cliffs. Personnel had just completed installation of a pump operation. NCDFR fire fighter began scouting fire line as remainder of personnel continued work on the fire. Approximately 15 minutes passed with no communications between IC and NCDFR fire fighter. Upon investigation the NCDFR fire fighter was discovered at the base of a rock cliff immediately adjacent to the fire. EMS personnel examined NCDFR fire fighter. Primary and secondary evaluations indicated NCDFR Fire fighter had sustained fatal injuries. Recovery efforts were initiated and an NCDFR investigation team assigned. NCDFR fire fighter was transported to St. Luke's Hospital in Tryon, NC for medical examination.