



TO :

FROM : National Wildfire Coordinating Group

REPLY TO : NWCG@nifc.gov

DATE : 07/30/2010

SUBJECT : SAFETY BULLETIN : 72 Hour Expanded Final Report - Constantia Fire



72 Hour Expanded Final Report_Constantia Fire.doc

Attached is the 72 hour report for the Constantia Fire non-serious accident investigation. Please see that it receives wide distribution within your agency. When available the final factual report will be posted on the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center database for incident reports and lessons learned analysis. <http://www.wildfirelessons.net/Reviews.aspx>

Constantia Fire 72 Hour Report

From: Nate Gogna, Non-Serious Accident Review Team Lead

To: Rex McKnight, BLM Nevada State FMO

Location: Constantia Fire, BLM Carson City District Office

Date of Occurrence: July 25, 2010

Activity: Wildland Fire Suppression

Number and Type of Injury: One injury, First degree burns to 50% of left hand

Summary:

On Sunday, July 25, 2010 at approximately 1225 hrs, an IHC firefighter sustained first degree burn injuries to his left hand as a result of not wearing gloves. The crew was on site to support wildland fire suppression operations while assigned to the Constantia fire, located on lands managed by the BLM Eagle Lake Field Office, Lands are Direct Protection delegated to Carson City District Office in Western Nevada. The location of the fire is four miles south of Doyle, California. The firefighter was assisting line construction operation when he fell into a hot ash pit.

Narrative:

The Constantia Fire was a lightning caused fire, reported at approximately 1726 hrs. The crew arrived on the fire at 2120 hrs, after working the evening initial attack hours the crew bedded down. Sunday the 25th the crew started up line control operations again. At around 12:20 a squad was working a section of line that was threatening containment lines. While saw team was clearing a small oak snag, injured party came in to help secure the falling trunk. As he grasped a limb the limb broke off and he fell backwards. To break his fall his left hand fell to the ground into a hot ash pit. At this time he sustained the burn injuries. At 12:22 Crew notified the Division Supervisor and the Burn Injury Protocol was started by the type 3 Incident Management organization committed to the fire.

Contributory Information:

A Non Serious Accident Investigation Review Team investigation has been conducted and completed at this time. The BLM California and BLM Nevada Offices Managers have been debriefed and have possession of the final report detailing the accident to include facts, findings, and recommendations.

Non Serious Accident Investigation Review Team Members:

Lead – California State Office Training Specialist

Investigator – Nevada State Office Safety Manager

Fire Operations Subject Matter Expert - Nevada Fire Operations Specialist

Fuels:

Timber, sagebrush and grass.

Weather:

Reported weather conditions during the afternoon of the initial attack were, sunny with scattered thunderstorms, temps 85to 95 degrees, west winds 4-8 mph, with gusts to 15 mph. Around thunderstorms gust of 40-50 mph are possible. Minimum relative humidity around 14% was expected.