

Rapid Lesson Sharing

Event Type: Electrical Hazard, ICP Trailer

Date: August 23, 2018

Location: Davis Fire, Kootenai National Forest,
Montana

Narrative

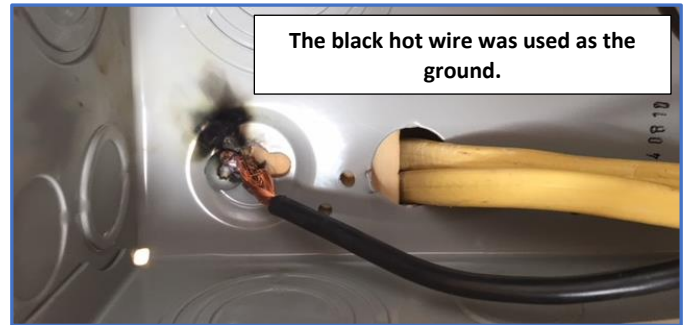
The Base Camp Manager for the Davis Fire was plugging in power to the Information Technology trailer for the Incident Management Team when the electrical panel arced and scorched the fuse panel. This also caused a fusing of the ground on the three-pronged 120-volt adapter.

After a certified electrician evaluated the fuse panel, he determined that the hot wire was grounded directly to the panel mounting screw and the neutral wire was not connected. The panel wiring allowed the metal of the trailer to be energized—causing an electrical shock hazard.

After further investigation, it was determined that when this trailer was on the previous Rattlesnake Creek Fire it was directly wired to the service drop panel. When the trailer was demobed from the Rattlesnake Creek Fire, it was determined that the wiring to the service drop panel was disconnected and someone attempted to rewire the fuse panel on the trailer incorrectly.

LESSONS

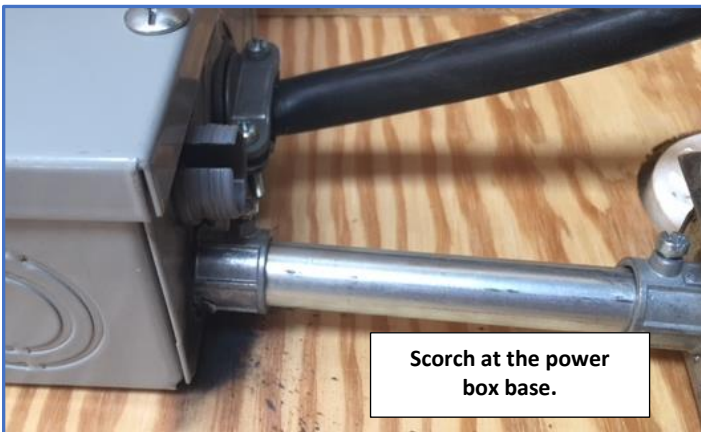
1. A certified electrician should handle all wiring needs.
2. Lock Out/Tag Out any primary electrical wiring.
3. The power supply selected at the ICP was inadequate to meet the Incident Management Team's needs.



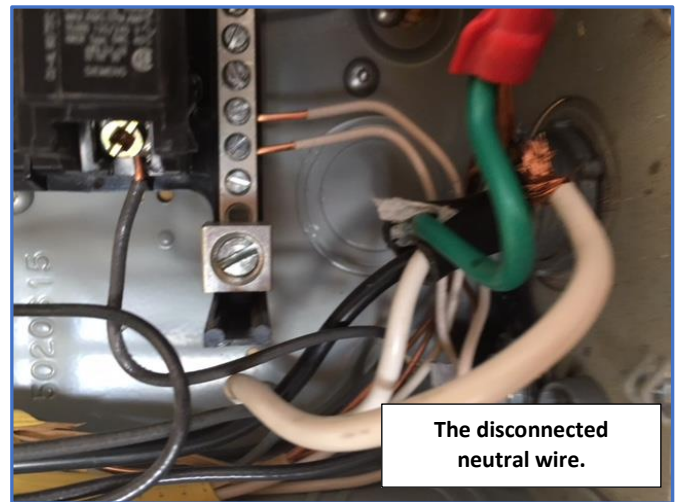
The black hot wire was used as the ground.



The damaged plug ends.



Scorch at the power box base.



The disconnected neutral wire.

This RLS was submitted by:

Incident Overhead

Do you have a Rapid Lesson to share?
Click this button:

[Share
Your Lessons](#)