

Rapid Lesson Sharing

Event Type: Water Tender Rollover

Date: August 10, 2018

Location: Ferguson Fire, California

He couldn't get the door open, so he had to kick the front window out to get himself out.

It was early in the afternoon and I just finished filling up my Water Tender along with another Water Tender operator. We jumped into our trucks and started heading down the road to Drop Point 55. I was in the lead and driving at about 10-15 mph. Due to the dusty road conditions, the other Water Tender operator dropped back in an effort to let the dust settle.

While continuing to drive to Drop Point 55, I receive a call on the radio from the other tender operator saying he went off the road and I needed to come back.

Not having the ability to turn my tender around, I began backing up the road. It took a bit of time to make my way back to him. When I got there, I found him sitting on the bank above the rolled tender. I asked him if he was okay and he said he was. I didn't see any evidence of injury.

When I asked him what had happened, he recalled a bump, then waking up in the truck with oil dripping on him. He couldn't get the door open, so he had to kick the front window out to get himself out.



LESSONS

- ✓ Although the driver does not remember what caused him to leave the road, it appears that he became distracted and the truck drove straight off the road. (Dust was not mentioned as a distraction.)
- ✓ It is critical for any vehicle operator to reduce to the extent possible any source of distraction while the vehicle is in motion.
- ✓ Should anything occur that will distract the driver from operating the vehicle, the vehicle needs to be brought to a safe, complete stop prior to addressing the issue.

This RLS was submitted by:

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