

United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Northwest District Colorado 2300 River Frontage Road Silt, CO 81652

July 11, 2018

To: Greg Shoop, Acting Colorado State Director

From: Andrew Archuleta, District Manager /s/ Andrew Archuleta

Subject: 72-Hour Report

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Location: Lake Christine Fire, Basalt, Colorado

Date of Occurrence: July 7, 2018

Time of Occurrence: Approximately 1745

Activity: Wildland Fire Suppression

Number of Injuries: 1

Number of Fatalities: 0

Property Damage: Minor damage to Caterpillar D5M-LGP-Crawler Tractor (bulldozer)

Narrative: During extended attack on the Lake Christine Fire a D5M crawler tractor and another crawler tractor were tracking across the fire area (in the "black"). The D5M crawler tractor was following the other crawler tractor. While cresting a marginal drop-off, the D5M bulldozer rolled over approximately three times and came to a rest upright. The operator appeared to have lost consciousness during the rollover and the bulldozer continued to move in reverse, but was eventually stopped by the other bulldozer operator's actions.

Nearby fire crews provided medical care and initiated medical evacuation of the bulldozer operator by helicopter to a local hospital. The operator was later released from the hospital with minor injuries. The crawler tractor sustained some visible damage.

An interagency Lessons Learned Review (LLR) team from outside the Colorado Northwest District was put in place on July 10, 2018 and will produce a final report with lessons learned for the benefit of the fire community to help prevent this from happening in the future.

To date, the team has visited the site, conversed with key individuals and partners, and gathered photo documentation and other communications. A briefing is tentatively confirmed for 0900 on July 12, 2018 to update BLM leadership and cooperators on progress toward completion of the report.

Cc: John Ruhs, FA-100 Aaron Baldwin, FA-300 Shelby Gales, FA-200 Rocco Snart, CO DFPC Curtis Heaton, FS R2 Brian Achziger, CO-937