



**United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Fire and Aviation
3833 S Development Ave
Boise, Idaho 83705-5354
<http://www.nifc.gov>



Date: July 29, 2016

To: Shelby Gales
Fire Safety Program Manager, Fire and Aviation Directorate

Through: John Ruhs *[Signature]* **JUL 29 2016**
State Director, BLM Nevada

From: Steve Acarregui *Steve Acarregui 7/29/16*
AIT Lead

Subject: Little Den single vehicle accident 72-Hour Preliminary Report

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PREMILINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Location: US Highway 50 approximately 14 miles west of Austin, NV

Date of Occurrence: July 26, 2016

Time of Occurrence: Approximately 0720 PDT

Activity: Normal (non-suppression) Operations

Number and Type of Injuries: 1

Fatalities: 0

Equipment Damage: 2011 – Dodge 1500 4X4 Pickup – Presumed Total Loss

Narrative: On July 26, 2016, at approximately 0720 PDT, a Rangeland Management Specialist in a pickup truck from the Battle Mountain District was involved in a single-vehicle rollover accident, about 14 miles west of Austin, NV. The Rangeland Management Specialist was taken to Battle Mountain Hospital for evaluation and was released that same morning with only minor bumps and bruises.

The Rangeland Management Specialist was in a government vehicle returning from the Little Den Fire in the Alpine Ridge area when the accident occurred. A civilian driving behind the pickup truck stopped to assist the driver; this individual had prior certified EMT training and administered immediate first aid by conducting a physical assessment of the driver. He

determined there were only minor injuries and proceeded to contact 911 for Law Enforcement and EMS support.

Preliminary indications are that the passenger side of the vehicle traveled off of the pavement onto the soft shoulder after negotiating a bend in the road. The driver was able to steer the vehicle back onto the pavement and began to travel into the oncoming lane. The driver over-corrected the vehicle causing it to leave the roadway back on to the soft shoulder resulting in a sideway skid, ending in a rollover accident.

A Wildland Fire Accident Investigation Team has been assigned to conduct the investigation. The intent of the investigation is to learn from the events leading up to this accident to prevent future occurrences.

cc:

Howard Hedrick, Acting Assistant Director, Fire and Aviation
Jolie Pollet, Acting Deputy Assistant Director, Fire and Aviation
Shelby Gales, National Fire Safety Program Manager
Marci Todd, Associate State Director, Nevada
Jeff Fedrizzi, Acting State Fire Management Officer, Nevada
Paul Petersen, State Fire Management Officer, Nevada
Alec Coicochea, Elko District Collateral Safety Manager NSO Safety POC