

72-Hour Expanded Report

To: Regional Director, Pacific West Region, National Park Service
Regional Forester, USDA Forest Service, Region 5

From: Facilitated Learning Analysis (FLA) Team Leader

Subject: 72-Hour Expanded Report – Upper Lyons Prescribed Fire Shelter Deployment

This report contains additional information from the 24-Hour Report.

Number and Type of Injuries: One individual with 2nd degree burns to the left hand and 1st degree burns to the right hand and face.

Narrative: On October 13, 2014, firefighters were conducting a prescribed fire in the Bald Hills Area of Redwood National Park. Crews were burning off of a handline when winds switched direction across the line causing several spot fires outside of the unit in heavier fuels, which burned together to form multiple slopovers. A decision was made to suspend ignition until an assessment of the slopovers could be completed. At approximately that same time, a firefighter who was scouting and assessing the fireline became entrapped due to intense heat and dense smoke. As a result, they deployed their fire shelter on the handline. The firefighter was quickly located and escorted a short distance out of the smoke and heat. They were immediately assessed by an on-site paramedic. The firefighter was able to walk, with some assistance by others, to an area where a vehicle was waiting to transport them to a landing zone. They were airlifted to Redding Regional Hospital for treatment. He was released a short time later and referred to the UC Davis Burn Center for follow-up the next day. The diagnosis from the specialist at the burn center was 2nd degree burns to the left hand and 1st degree burns to the right hand and face. They will continue with follow-up treatment at the burn center for the next several weeks.

Significant Note: The firefighter continued to emphasize the profound role that their fire shelter training played in the successful deployment of their shelter during this event.

Action Taken to Date: Based on the nature of this incident, the USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region and the National Park Service, Pacific West Region are utilizing the Facilitated Learning Analysis (FLA) process to maximize

and share learning opportunities. The interagency FLA Team received an in-briefing on Friday 10/17/14 and work is on-going.

RELATED SAFETY REVIEW TOPICS FOR FIELD USE: Review: NWCG Publication, The New Generation Fire Shelter, PMS 411, NFES 2710, March 2003. Perform practical fire shelter training on a regular basis. Review: IRPG Page 7 LCES, Page 30 Last Resort Survival, and Page 104 Burn Injuries.

//s// Interagency FLA Team

cc: Regional FMO, Pacific West Region, National Park Service
Fire Director, USDA Forest Service, Region 5
Superintendent, Redwood National Park
Forest Supervisor, Six Rivers National Forest