



24-Hour Report of Catesby Fire Vehicle Accident Oklahoma Forestry Services

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Date of Report: February 29, 2024

Location: Catesby Fire

Approx. 11 miles north of Gage, OK in Ellis County

Fire Size: 90,570 acres

Date of Occurrence: February 28, 2024

Time of Occurrence: Approximately 1230 hours

Mission: Wildland Fire Suppression – Extended Attack

Number Injured: One (1)

Number of Fatalities: 0

Narrative:

On Wednesday, February 28, 2024 a member of the Alva Fire Department was pinned between the cab of the truck and water tank as a result of a two vehicle collision on the Catesby Fire. The firefighter was extricated and airlifted to OU Trauma Center with trunk and leg injuries.

At approximately 1230, a Greenleaf VFD T6 (Engine 14) was following Alva FD Water Tender 120 (Tender 120) on a county road during suppression operations. Tender 120 had stopped on the county road and Engine 14 was not able to stop, striking the back of Tender 120. During impact the water tank broke free from the mounts and slid forward pinning a firefighter between the headache rack and tank. Firefighters on scene were able to extricate the firefighter and provide BLS until EMS units arrived. The firefighter was airlifted to a Level 1 Trauma Center in Oklahoma City where he was treated for injuries. He was diagnosed with a fractured pelvis and is scheduled for surgery today. Blowing dirt and ash from the fire reduced visibility directly contributing to the accident.

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