

24-Hour Report of Floyd Co. Hwy 1498 Burnover Kentucky Division of Forestry



THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Date of Report: 30 March 2026
Location: Hwy 1498 Fire
Approx. 3 miles southeast of Wheelwright in Knott County, KY
Date of Occurrence: 29 March 2026
Time of Occurrence: Approximately 1330 hours
Mission: Wildland Fire Suppression – Initial Attack
Number Injured: Two
Number of Fatalities: None
Narrative:

On March 29, 2026, at 11:19 am, the Hazard Branch forestry office received a call from the local 911 center reporting a fire on Hwy 1498 in Floyd County, described as a forest fire. The Forest Ranger Incident Commander 5 (IC) and the Floyd County 1 fire crew were dispatched and en route at 11:23. At 12:02, the IC and crew arrived at the scene and provided an initial estimate of the fire burning in timber, covering approximately 15 acres.

Around 13:30, the IC reported to the Hazard Branch that a crew member had been burned. The IC and crew assisted the injured firefighter, placing them in a truck to head to the hospital. While en route, they met EMS personnel, who took over care and transported the patient to the local hospital. At the hospital, it was decided that the firefighter needed to be flown by a life-flight helicopter to a burn center for treatment of severe burns.

At approximately 14:34, a report of a second burn injury from another firefighter was received. That firefighter was also taken to the hospital from the same burn-over incident for medical treatment. The individual was treated and released at the local hospital.

The burnover occurred due to a wind shift during the construction of the containment line and prevented access to the designated safety zone. Injury number 1 was attempting to jump the flames into the safety zone when they tripped and fell into the fire, while a second individual was burned while trying to rescue the injured person.

There will be a 72-hour report.

Compiled & submitted by: Michael Froelich, Fire Management Chief, Kentucky Division of Forestry
Reviewed by: Brandon Howard, Director/State Forester, Kentucky Division of Forestry