



U.S. Fire Administration
Working for a fire-safe America

The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) has received notice of the following firefighter fatality:

Helitack Crewmember Nicholas "Nick" Alexander Hutcherson

U.S. Forest Service, Kaibab National Forest, Williams Ranger District,
Pittman Valley Helibase
Williams, Arizona

Firefighters from the Rifle Interagency and Pittman Valley Helitack Crews were involved in a burnover event while responding to initial attack fires in the Upper Colorado River Interagency Fire Management Unit (UCR). Helitack Crewmember Nicholas Hutcherson, along with Helitack Squad Leader Emily Barker (U.S. Forest Service – UCR) and Helitack Crewmember Sydney Watson (U.S. Wildland Fire Service – UCR), did not survive the burnover.

Age: 27

Classification: Wildland Full-Time

Years of service: 6

Date of incident: June 27, 2026

Date of death: June 27, 2026