



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
UNITED STATES WILDLAND FIRE SERVICE

In Reply Refer to:

Date: August 11, 2026

To: Brian Fennessy, Fire Chief, US Wildland Fire Service
Sarah Fisher, Deputy Chief for Fire and Aviation Management, US Forest Service

From: Kelly Kane, Alaska Geographic Area Fire Chief, US Wildland Fire Service

Subject: 24-Hour Preliminary Report: Bear Trap Fire

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PREMILINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Location: Lac la Croix, Minnesota

Date of Occurrence: August 11, 2006

Time of Occurrence: Approximately 1037

Activity: Wildland Fire Suppression

Number of Fatalities: 1

Narrative: An initial report regarding an emergency on the Bear Trap Fire indicated that a firefighter experienced shortness of breath and chest discomfort. An emergency medical response was initiated, and the individual was transported by ambulance to a local hospital, where the individual subsequently died.

Initial details regarding the incident are being collected, and formal notifications are in the process of being issued. Support for affected personnel and the individual's family is being coordinated, and a review of the incident is underway.

cc:

Christopher Wilcox, United States Wildland Fire Service
Persephone Whelen, United States Forest Service
Patrick Pearson, United States Wildland Fire Service
Steven Miller, United States Forest Service