



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

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

Pilot Christopher Andersen

U.S. Forest Service – Cleveland National Forest

San Diego, California

On the morning of August 7, 2026, Pilot Christopher Andersen, along with Pilot Miles Elliott, was piloting a helicopter engaged in water dropping near the Widemouth 2 Fire (approximately 12 miles south of Kanosh, Utah). Contact was lost with the helicopter at 10:41 a.m. A search later confirmed that the helicopter had crashed after wreckage was found. Both pilots did not survive the crash.

Age: 64

Classification: Wildland Contract

Years of service: 40

Date of incident: August 7, 2026

Date of death: August 7, 2026