



Numbers and Lessons

Collected from 2023 Incident Reports

Fatalities

13

- 4 Medical
- 4 Driving
- 3 Aviation
- 1 Hit by Tree
- 1 Hit by Powerline

Accidents, Incidents, and Injuries:

10

UTV Incidents

- 5 Rollovers
- 4 UTV Fires
- 1 Leg Injury



11

Entrapments

- 10 Initial Attack
- 1 Prescribed Fire



12

Vehicle Accidents

- 6 Rollovers
- 3 Left Roadway
- 2 Lost Duals
- 1 Wildlife Collision



12

Hit by Tree Incidents

- 6 Tree Felling
- 3 Handcrew Ops
- 2 Scouting
- 1 Engine Ops



14

Burn Injuries

- 4 Drip Torch
- 4 Fall
- 2 Direct Flame
- 2 Fuel Ignition
- 1 Pump Ops
- 1 Explosion



Lessons

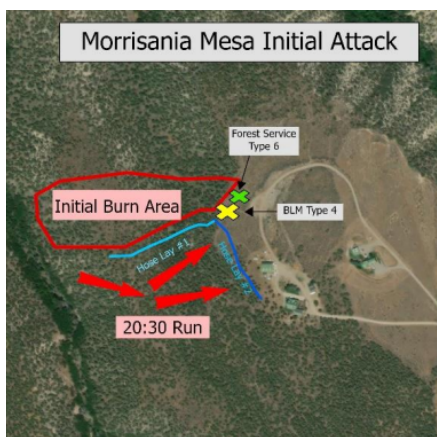
Have a Fire Extinguisher

Fire extinguishers were missing on the UTV and the UTV torch mounting bracket, potentially delaying quick knock down of the rapidly spreading fire in the bed of the UTV.

[Illinois Prescribed Fire UTV Fire](#)



Practice Engine Protection and Escape



The Engine captain had difficulty disconnecting his engine from the hose lay due to the water pressure in the system. The flaming front that impacted the engine had flame lengths of approximately 20 feet that melted several components on the back of the engine, including the electronic tank to pump switch which was now inoperable.

[Morrisania Mesa Fire Engine Entrapment](#)

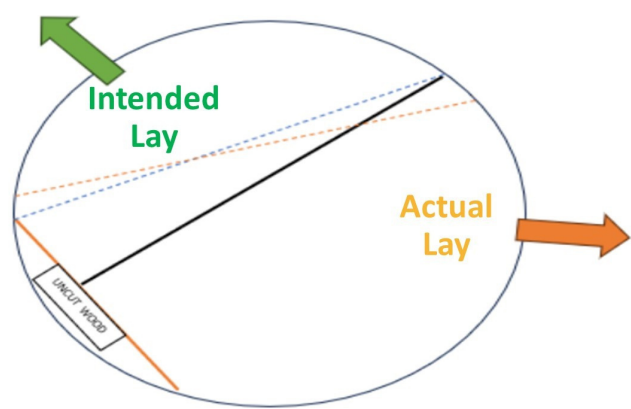
Drowsy Driving is Dangerous

There was not much talking between the driver and the three passengers. The driver started to nod off—and veered off the right shoulder of the road. The passengers were startled by the sound of a shattering rear passenger window as the vehicle came to a stop slightly off the road.

[Hayden Fire Vehicle Incident](#)



Keep an Eye on the Tree



The sawyer noticed the tree sag and told the swamper to leave. The swamper instinctively chose the primary escape path. The tree fell towards the primary escape path and struck the swamper.

[Lookout Fire Swamper Hit by Tree](#)

Pump Operations are Serious

The pump operator noticed steam from the discharge hose and interpreted this as excessive pressure. To relieve this pressure, while straddling the suction hose, the operator opened the already partially open gated wye which fed a one-inch hose back to the water source. After opening the valve, the suction hose violently slipped out of the coupling, spraying scalding water on the operator resulting in serious burn injuries.



[Lost Horse Creek Fire Pump Accident](#)