

BUS ACCIDENT ON THE TILLER COMPLEX

SEPTEMBER 03 -- GLIDE, OR: The driver of a crew bus carrying 19 Canadian firefighters temporarily lost control of the vehicle on the Little Boy Fire on the Tiller Complex this morning. Six firefighters were transported to Mercy Medical Hospital in Roseburg for evaluation; two other firefighters with minor injuries were later taken to the hospital. The 11 others on the bus remained at the Milo base camp for evaluation and debriefing.

"Safety is always the number one priority for the Pacific Northwest Incident Management Team 2 - in all aspects of incident management," said Mike Lohrey, incident commander. "We constantly remind incident personnel of the need to follow safe practices while driving to and from the fireline." An accident investigation team has been mobilized and includes members of Lohrey's team along with representatives from the Tiller Ranger District, Douglas County Sheriff's Department, and the bus company.