



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Washington
Office

14th and Independence Ave. SW.
P.O. Box 96090
Washington, DC 20090-6090

File code: 6730

Date: May 24, 2004

Route to:

Subject: Expanded (72-Hour) Briefing
Angelina Non-motorized Trail Project
Angelina Ranger District
National Forests and Grasslands in Texas

To: Regional Forester, Region 8

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Name of injured or deceased (if the next of kin have been notified): Rodney Peters, Soil Scientist, Supervisor's Office, National Forests and Grasslands in Texas (Next of Kin Have Been Notified)

Preliminary factual findings: At approximately 1000 hours on May 20, 2004, Mr. Peters arrived at the Angelina Ranger District Office to retrieve an all terrain vehicle (ATV). While at the District, he received an overview of the project, tailgate safety briefing, and GPS instructions.
At 1530 hours on May 21, 2004, district personnel received a call from the Supervisor's Office asking if Mr. Peters was on the district.
At 1545 hours, district personnel initiated a search and rescue effort.
At 1800 hours, Mr. Peters' body was reported as found.

Narrative: Preliminary analysis of the scene indicates that Mr. Peters attempted to navigate down a short, rutted, steep embankment toward a creek crossing. His body was found lying underneath his overturned ATV.

Situation: A review of Mr. Peter's U. S. Government motor vehicle operator's identification card shows Mr. Peters was certified for ATV operations. Records indicate that he was within the 3-year reevaluation requirement. Mr. Peters was wearing the required personal protective equipment.

STEPHEN P. WEAVER
Team Leader

cc:
Jim Spano, Southern Region
Dick King, WO Safety
Allison Good, WO Safety
Fred Salinas, National Forests and Grasslands in Texas
Linda Reynolds, Union Representative, Sam Houston National Forest
Official Case File