

After Incident Report Lessons Learned Center

The purpose of the After Incident Report is to identify both successes and challenges on an incident that can be used as a learning tool for others. The lessons learned in the report will also be used to improve training curriculums. Issues and trends that are identified may have Information Collection Teams assigned to them in the future for further analysis and resolution.

Type 1-5 incident commanders and agency administrators are requested to complete the following questionnaire for each incident they manage. Crews and single resources are also encouraged to complete the questionnaire for incidents they participated in:

Incident Name: Biscuit Fire

Dates of Assignment: 8th Aug to 14th Sept 2002

Unit or Jurisdiction(s): Australia/New Zealand Aviation **Geographic Area:** PNW

Report Submitted by: John Sutton

Phone Number: Contact WFLLC by E-mail

1. What was the most notable success at the incident that others may learn from?

A genuine appreciation of the way complicated issues and tasks could be efficiently undertaken because of the Australian and New Zealand relaxed style and approach.

2. What were some of the most difficult challenges faced and how were they overcome?

The most difficult challenges our aviation personnel encountered was adjusting to the 'campaign' style of firefighting in the US. To develop the correct attitude it took a certain amount of personal adjustment and flexibility to adapt to the 'hurry up and wait' environment.

3. What changes, additions or deletions are recommended to wild land fire training curriculums?

- Fire managers in Australia and New Zealand need to be proactive in the continued development of aircraft coordination and safety management processes. Otherwise there is potential to have operational efficiency negatively affected by unnecessary and restrictive aviation regulations as a result of serious incidents.
- Australian aviation needs to improve the level of training of helicopter overhead in the use of under slung loads/cargo missions, their planning and execution

4. What issues were not resolved to your satisfaction and need further review? Based on what was learned, what is your recommendation for resolution?

None recorded

Please submit this report to the Lessons Learned Center at the National Advanced Resource Technology Center (NARTC) attention Paula Nasiatka(pnasiatka@fs.fed.us or Fax 520-670-6413)

Thank you for completing the report. Others can learn from your experiences.