

72-HOUR REPORT, NON-SERIOUS ACCIDENT

FROM: Scott Moore, Fire Chief, Franklin Co. FPD#2

TO: Board of Commissioners, Franklin Co. FPD#2

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

LOCATION: Franklin Co Fire District #2, South of Kahlotus, Wa

DATE OF OCCURRENCE: August 15, 2010

TIME OF OCCURRENCE: ~ Approximately 1515 Hrs

ACTIVITY: Wildfire Fire Suppression

NUMBER & TYPE OF INJURIES: Two - One firefighter with 2nd degree burns to hand, both firefighters treated for smoke inhalation. One USFWS Type 5 engine with minor damage, one Franklin Co FD #3 Type 6 engine with extensive fire damage and one USFWS command vehicle with fire damage.

SUMMARY:

On Saturday, August 15, 2010 at approximately 1515 hrs, two county firefighters sustained minor smoke inhalation and one sustained 2nd degree burns to one hand. In addition to the injuries to the firefighters, a total of 3 fire apparatus were damaged by direct flame impingement. Firefighters were on site to support wildland fire suppression operations on the Davin Place fire, located on lands within the Franklin County Fire District #2 jurisdiction. The location of the fire was approximately 3 miles southeast of the community of Kahlotus, Washington.

NARRATIVE:

At approximately 1515 hrs three fire vehicles, (2 USFWS and 1 Franklin Co FD #3) were involved in a burn over incident on the Davin Place Fire. Two Franklin Co FD#3 employees were transported to Lourdes Hospital in Pasco for smoke inhalation and one of the two had 2nd degree burns to his hands. Both firefighters were treated and released the same evening. The crews were overtaken by a fast moving grass fire as they were moving to a nearby safety zone which was identified in the black. The USFWS vehicles were able to drive through the advancing fire, but the Franklin Co FD#3 engine got stuck, the firefighters in the engine sheltered in place in the cab of the engine. Once the fire front passed they exited the engine and proceeded to extinguish any fire on the engine. 2nd degree burns were sustained to the palms of one firefighter while extinguishing the fire on the engine. A non-serious accident investigation team arrived at 0700hrs on 8/17/10 to start an investigation of the events.

CONTRIBUTORY INFORMATION:

Crews reported that when they arrived at the briefing area the fire behavior was a backing fire with 1 to 2 foot flame lengths. The fire edge was approximately 80 to 100 yards away. They were also not able to see the chimney where the burn over occurred.

NON SERIOUS ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REVIEW TEAM MEMBERS

Lead – Mike Harris (Benton County Fire District #1)

Jason Riggins (USFWS R1 Regional Office)

Randy Johnson (Spokane Fire District #4)

Brad Martin (Spokane Fire District #4)

FUELS

FM 1/3 grass, annual rye and wheat stubble

WEATHER

Conditions that were recorded from Juniper Dunes RAWS Station which is approximately 15 miles from the fire location were; winds ENE 6 mph, temp 96 degrees, RH 14%.

Submitted by: Franklin Co FD #2

Chief Scott Moore