

## ***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: Green Creek**                      **Dates of Assignment: 8/26/02 – 8/31/02**

**Unit or Jurisdiction(s): Routt National Forest**

**Geographic Area: CO-RTF-318**

**Report Submitted by: Bob Sandman**              **Phone Number: (406)-881-2371**

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

The IMT's ability to evaluate hazards and risks, develop appropriate mitigation measures, and engage in the wilderness portion of the fire. This engagement occurred after others previously assigned to the incident had decided avoidance was the only acceptable approach in the wilderness portion of the fire due to snag hazards. This IMT has had considerable experience operating in and around snags and has developed a good checklist of mitigation measures.

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

- a. This IMT replaced another overhead team that had reached the end of their 14-day period. Because of the conditions and red-flag-warning forecasts, the Forest anticipated fire-control problems; however, the problems did not materialize. As a result, the biggest challenge was to close out an incident in a short period of time that had been managed primarily by another team.
- b. No other overhead teams were available within region during this same time period. As such, the IMT developed a strategy with the Regional MAC and Forest to be able to mobilize an "advance party" to any new emerging incident, while still keeping a skeleton force to finish closing out this incident. This strategy involved identifying both acceptable and desired conditions for containment, control, mopup, and rehab on the Green Creek Fire. This planning was implemented when the IMT mobilized an advance party to the Commissary Ridge Fire in Wyoming, allowing the IMT to assume command of that incident at least 24 hours ahead of normal procedures, while still closing out Green Creek.

3. What changes, additions or deletions are recommended to wild land fire training curriculums?
  - a. Training on effective mitigation measures for working around snags (other than avoidance) could benefit both firefighters and IMTs. Although snags present an obvious serious hazard, proper mitigation measures exist and can, in most circumstances, effectively allow engagement.
  - b. The mobilization strategy for this IMT was highly effective and may be of benefit for other teams.
  
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

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.**