

After Incident Report Lessons Learned Center

The purpose of the After Incident Report is to identify issues that occurred on an incident and how they were resolved. The lessons learned in the report will also be used to refresh or update 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 I – V Incident Commanders and Agency Administrators are requested to complete the following questionnaire for the incident(s) that they managed. Crews and single resources are also encouraged to complete the questionnaire for incidents they participated in:

Incident Name: Spring Creek Fire Dates of Assignment: June 26 – July 11, 2002
Joe Hartman IC

Unit or Jurisdiction(s): White River NF Geographic Area: 6 miles north of New Castle, CO

Report Submitted by: Bruce Short Phone Number: (303) 275-5074

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

The public relations and information effort by the Team, which was characterized by a lot of effort by the Team as a whole. The public was kept abreast of the firefighting effort and the local public demonstrated great appreciation for the information provided.

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

The terrain was extremely difficult and was compounded by the time needed to access the fire. The Team overcame the time obstacle by spiking out several crews at a time, staggering the days they returned to camp to ease the impact on logistical support and air operations. The difficulty of the terrain was handled by using aerial suppression techniques and indirect attack for those portions of the fire that were inaccessible safely for the crews. Total acreage burned was increased by those techniques, however.

3. What changes, additions or deletions are recommended to various training curriculums?

None.

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

The length of time needed to obtain critical resources, resource orders cancelled or not acted on, and resources diverted away have not been resolved. We are unsure of how to resolve this issue, since it seems to be both local and regional in scope. However, an issue that should be addressed is information that more than half of the Type 1 crews in the nation are not assigned to wildfires, but are still unavailable for critical wildfire assignments.

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)

