

# After Incident Report

## Lessons Learned, NARTC

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 Fire Action Collection Teams assigned to them in the future for further analysis and resolution.

Incident Management Teams and Agency Administrators are asked to complete the following questionnaire for the incident(s) that they managed:

Incident Name	Dates of Assignment
<b>Squire Fire</b>	<b>July 2002</b>
Unit or Jurisdiction(s)	Geographic Area
<b>Southwest Oregon District, ODF</b> <b>Applegate Fire District #9</b>	<b>PNW</b>
Report Submitted by	
<b>Dan Thorpe, IC</b> <b>Brett Fillis, Fire Chief</b>	

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

**We had a single point of decision for any potential evacuations. All overhead and line personnel were briefed that only the Operations Chief could designate an evacuation area.**

**Additionally, we allowed a “revolving door” with homeowners who were evacuated. Once evacuated, they weren’t allowed to return immediately, however, we told them when we would open it up during the less active burning periods to come and go. Law Enforcement bought into this policy and were pleased at how successful it was able to work out.**

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

**The Fire was within a classic interface of houses, public roads; seen from significant population centers in Southern Oregon. As a result, there was a very large public interest with the potential for rumors. In addition to rural fire department responsibilities and Conflagration Act personnel, there law enforcement agencies, search and rescue members, road block personnel, volunteers, field information officers, besides well-intentioned members of community. All these people had radios or home scanners.**

**The burning period was frequently short and residents could safely return to their property during the morning hours. Law Enforcement was open to allowing landowners to returning when they could safely, as long as it**

**worked. Residents honored the system and were complimentary of this opportunity.**

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

**IMTs need a standard protocol in handling evacuations and limit the decision point to a single position. Early and continued emphasis can avoid the use of the “E” word starting rumors.**

**Work with Law Enforcement to consider if options exist for landowners to come an go into an evacuation area.**

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

Please submit this report to the Lessons Learned Program at the National Advanced Resource Technology Center (NARTC) attention Rich Wands (rwands@fs.fed.us or Rich\_Wands@nps.gov or by Fax 520-670-6413)

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