



BLM

72 Hour Expanded Report

To: Designated Agency Safety and Health Official (DASHO)

From: Serious Accident Investigation Team Leader

Subject: Expanded (72 Hour) Report, CR 337 Fatality

Name of Deceased: Caleb Hamm, Bonneville IHC

Note: The Bonneville IHC crewmembers interviews are pending.

Narrative: On July 7, 2011 at approximately 1550 hours, crewmembers from the Bonneville IHC were performing cold trailing operations after completing hand fire line construction in Division A of the CR 337 Fire. This assignment was a continuation of the previous operational period. The location is approximately 5 miles northwest of Mineral Wells, in Palo Pinto County, Texas. Weather conditions were very hot, with afternoon temperatures exceeding 105 degrees Fahrenheit. Without exhibiting any noticeable signs of distress, crewmember Caleb Hamm collapsed and fell to the ground. The unconscious patient was initially exhibiting labored breathing as initial emergency care was being given. The emergency medical plan was initiated and set into place. The patient's condition rapidly deteriorated from labored breathing to a condition where CPR was administered. Initial efforts to restore vitals were unsuccessful.

Emergency medical response was activated at approximately 1555, and a ground ambulance and air ambulance from Mineral Wells were dispatched to Drop Point (DP) 20 on the fire. The air ambulance landed at DP 20 at approximately 1635. Two flight nurses from the air ambulance were transported a short distance by ground transportation where they met the crewmembers who were performing CPR on the patient. The nurses began advanced life support, while transportation continued down to a waiting ground ambulance at DP 20. The ground ambulance, with patient and two flight nurses departed DP 20 at approximately 1649 and arrived at Palo Pinto General Hospital in Mineral Wells at approximately 1700. Mr. Hamm was pronounced dead by the attending physician shortly after arrival.

An autopsy has been performed and results are pending.

Additional Information: An OSHA representative conducted interviews on July 9, 2011 and concluded her initial investigation.

Action Taken to Date: On July 8, 2011, a national Serious Accident Investigation Team (SAIT), with interagency representation, was assembled in Mineral Wells, Texas. The SAIT is operating under dual delegation authority from the Bureau of Land Management, Fire and Aviation; and the Texas Forest Service.

On July 9, the SAIT conducted an agency administrator's in-brief with Utah State Office, Texas Forest Service, and NIMO representatives. Interviews and the investigation are currently in progress.

On July 10, the SAIT members traveled to the accident scene and were briefed by NIMO representatives.

/s/ Vicki Wood

cc:

BLM Safety Manager
Office of Fire and Aviation Safety Manager
Official Case File