



**U.S. Department of Agriculture**  
**Forest Service**  
 1323 Club Drive  
 Vallejo, CA 94592

**U.S. Department of the Interior**  
**Bureau of Land Management**  
 2800 Cottage Way  
 Sacramento, CA 95825



EMS TRANSMISSION: 08/07/2017

Memorandum

To: State Director, BLM-California  
 From: Lead, Lessons Learned Review Team  
 Through: State Fire Management Officer, BLM-California  
 Subject: 72 Hour Preliminary Report

**THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

**Location:** Minerva Fire, Plumas NF

**Date of Occurrence:** August 4, 2017

**Time of Occurrence:** Approximately 9:30 AM

**Local Agency Administrator:** Daniel Lovato, Forest Supervisor, Plumas National Forest

**Activity:** Falling/Line Prep

**Number of Injuries:** 1

**Number of Fatalities:** 0

**Property Damage:** 0

**Narrative:** During suppression operations on the Minerva Fire, a sawyer on a BLM Interagency Hotshot Crew was struck by the top of the snag he was felling. The crew was conducting line preparation ahead of a planned backfire.

The snag was estimated to be 60 feet tall and 18-20 inch DBH. While the snag was falling in the planned direction, the top 8 feet broke off and struck the faller. The injured firefighter was airlifted to a Reno area hospital where he continues to recover from his injuries.

An LLR/RLS team in-briefed on August 6, 2017.

Concurrence:  Non-concurrence:

  
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 Jerome E. Perez  
 State Director, BLM-California

*August 6, 2017*  
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 Date