

72 Hour Expanded Report Bull Fire Entrapment

To: USFS, Region 3, Regional Fire Safety Program Manager

Subject: Expanded (72 Hour) Report

Date: May 2, 2011

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

LOCATION: Nogales Ranger District, Coronado National Forest, Nogales, AZ

DATE OF OCCURRENCE: April 29, 2011

TIME OF OCCURRENCE: 1106 MST

LOCAL AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR: Jim Upchurch, Forest Supervisor

MISSION: Wildland fire suppression operations

ACTIVITY: Helitack personnel staffing a remote helispot

NUMBER OF INJURIES: 2

NUMBER OF FATALITIES: 0

PROPERTY DAMAGE: Firefighter gear bags and hand tools damaged by fire.

INCIDENT SUMMARY: The Bull fire was initially detected in Mexico on April 26, 2011. The fire eventually crossed the international border from Mexico into the United States, and onto the Coronado National Forest. During suppression efforts on April 29, two USDA Forest Service helitack personnel received non-life threatening burn injuries while staffing a remote helispot on the National Forest. Both firefighters were transported by helicopter to the hospital with first and second degree burns. The firefighter with second degree burns was subsequently moved to and evaluated at a burn center. Both firefighters were released from the hospital the evening of April 29.

Based on the nature of this incident, the Coronado National Forest will be utilizing the Facilitated Learning Analysis (FLA) process to maximize the learning opportunities and to better manage future incidents.

cc: Corbin Newman, USFS Region 3 Regional Forester

Faye Krueger, USFS Region 3 Deputy Regional Forester