



File Code: 6730**Date:** August 4, 2015**Route To:****Subject:** Firefighter Fatality Frog Incident: 72 Hour Report**To:** Lenise Lago, Designated Agency Safety and Health Official**Number and Type of Injuries:** One fatality**Name:** David Ruhl

On the evening of July 30, 2015, 38 year-old Black Hills National Forest Engine Captain, David “Dave” Ruhl, while scouting on foot during initial attack of the Frog Fire on the Modoc National Forest, was entrapped and killed.

Narrative:

Dave was on a temporary detail assignment to the Modoc National Forest when the Frog Fire began. He scouted the fire as initial attack forces worked to establish an anchor at the heel of the fire. Contact was lost with him shortly after fire activity increased across the fire.

The Modoc County Sheriff’s Office responded to search for the missing firefighter at approximately 8 p.m., July 30. The initial search effort continued until about midnight when it was halted due to smoke, poor visibility and the hazardous fire conditions. Efforts began again at 6 a.m., July 31. Dave was discovered deceased at 9:17 a.m.

A Coordinated Response Protocol (CRP) Learning Team in briefed with the forest on Monday August 3, 2015. The team is scheduling interviews with selected personnel to learn from these tragic events.

/s/ Mike Dudley

MIKE DUDLEY

Coordinated Response Protocol Team Leader

cc: Steve Schlientz, Tom Harbour, Jeanne Wade, Amanda McAdams

