



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Forest Service • National Incident Management Organization – Atlanta

Klamath National Forest

1312 Fairlane Road, Yreka, CA 96097 • Voice (530) 842-6131 • Web: www.fs.fed.us/r5/klamath

Shasta-Trinity National Forest

3644 Avtech Parkway, Redding, CA 96002 • Voice (530) 226-2500 • Web: www.fs.fed.us/r5/shastatrinity

Six Rivers National Forest

1330 Bayshore Way, Eureka, CA 95501 • Voice (707) 442-1721 • Web: www.fs.fed.us/r5/sixrivers

Release No. FS-07_18_09 (2)

July 18, 2009

Fire Information: 530-629-2816

Email: backbone.fire.info@gmail.com

www.inciweb.org/incident/1716/

Fatal Accident During Routine Training At the Backbone Helibase

WILLOW CREEK, Calif. – During a routine training exercise an individual was involved in an accident Tuesday morning. A Helicopter and its crew, who are assigned to the Backbone Fire, was conducting weekly skill proficiency acceptance training and was involved in an accident that took an individuals life.

At 10:10 this morning while performing a proficiency skill acceptance training, at the Backbone Helibase in Willow Creek, an individual fell and incurred fatal injuries. The training is required to be conducted weekly to insure the crew's safety and proficiency.

Information is limited at this time and all names of individuals involved are being withheld until notifications to families have been made. We will be happy to provide information as soon as it is available.

The individual was provided medical attention immediately at the scene. The Base medical staff, the Humboldt County Coroner's Office, and the Humboldt County Sherriff's Office were dispatched and involved in the initial response.

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