



**National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Serious Accident Investigation Team**

72-Hour Expanded Report

Date: August 1, 2018

To: National Park Service Division Chief, Fire and Aviation Management

From: Hughes Fatality Serious Accident Investigation Team Leader

Subject: 72-Hour Expanded Report

This report contains additional information beyond the 24-Hour Report.

Name of Fatality Victim(s): Brian Hughes

Number and Type of Injuries: 0

Narrative: On July 29th, 2018 the NPS Arrowhead Interagency Hotshot Crew was engaged in fire suppression operations on the Ferguson Fire near Yosemite National Park. At approximately 9:24 a.m., Hotshot Captain Brian Hughes was struck by a tree and fatally injured during hazard tree removal.

Emergency medical personnel and other staff assigned to the division responded to the scene quickly. Hughes was flown off the mountain at 10:32 a.m. by a helicopter equipped with advanced life support. While en route to Mariposa Airport, Hughes was pronounced dead.

An Interagency Serious Accident Investigation Team (SAIT) was convened July 31st. The team in-briefed with USDA Forest Service (USFS) and National Park Service (NPS) personnel at 8:00 a.m. on August 1, 2018.

Interviews with the crew and pertinent staff are being conducted by the SAIT. The interviews are being jointly conducted by both NPS and USFS in accordance with Departmental Manual 486 Chapter 7 and NPS Reference Manual 50B, *Occupational Safety and Health Program* and Reference Manual 18, *Wildland Fire Management*.

cc: Deputy Regional Director, PWR
Wildland Fire Branch Chief, FMPC
Wildland Fire Operations Program Leader, FMPC
Division Chief, Office of Risk Management, WASO