Lessons From The Lava Mountain Fire
4 Take Aways

**RMP vs. EOP**

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- **EOP** = Specific and functional document designed to provide reference and guidance in a crisis situation

**It's True...You Can't Over-Communicate...With Parents and Participants**

- With Participants it's crucial to address their concerns with clear and age-appropriate information
- With Parents you need to anticipate questions and communicate with confidence and consistency

**A Crisis is No Time for Panic...or Planning**

- Fostering a sense of calm at the time of the Crisis starts well before the “Event” that caused the Crisis
- Knowing what to do when the Crisis starts spinning is a matter of Pre-Crisis Planning

**Make a Plan...Review the Plan...Practice the Plan...EXECUTE ON THE PLAN!**

'nuff said
“A great part of courage is having done the right thing before.”

- Ralph Waldo Emerson
This plan was developed by Russell Phillips & Associates, LLC as a volunteer project to support The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp. The plan incorporates Russell Phillips & Associates best practices from working with Children's hospitals throughout the US and Canada, sections from existing Hole in the Wall Gang Camp plans and certain sections from Camp Boggy Creek in FL and The Painted Turtle Camp in CA.
Boys’ Season Final Rodeo

July 16th 2016
Lava Mountain - WY-SHF-000267
Infrared Map
Flown July 18 @ 2205 hours
IR Interpreted Size: 441 acres
- Isolated Heat Sources
- Scattered Heat
- Intense Heat
- Heat Perimeter
Datum: NAD83

July 18th
2016
LMF
Sunrise on Evac + 2
Sunday, July 24th 2016
Closing in on Sand Butte

July 25th 2016
July 15
- Lightning strike...
- smoke reported
- Fire Not Located

July 19
- Lava Mountain Fire Named Girls’ Season Opens
- 132 Campers Arrive
- 102 Staff On The Ranch

July 20
- Monitoring the LMF Hourly
- Calls placed with Mike Franchini, Fire (Chief in Dubois), Rick Metzger (District Ranger for NFS)
- Sent Razz and Chef to Dubois to Prep for Possible Evac

July 21
- Leaders from The Type 2 Incident Command Team Visit the Ranch
- Matty does a 3 Hour Tour...a 3 Hour Tour!

July 22
- Fire Threatens TVRC Ranch
- Evacuation GO 2pm!
- 86 Campers / 88 Staff (44/14)
- Matty Calls Dubois Superintendent
- Bus Drivers Head To TVRC
- Dinner moved from 6pm to 5pm
- Campers and Staff Grab “Go-Bags”
- Busses are loaded at 6:15pm
- Campfire Program starts at 8pm, on schedule!
- Horses

July 23
- Flights out are scheduled through the night and begin to see Campers departing at 7am.
- Parents, family members, friends begin collecting Campers
- At the 24 hour mark 50% of Campers (43) are Signed Out
- Staff Meeting at Noon
- Cattle
- Saddles, Tack, Trunks, Memorabilia

July 24 / 25
- Staff Begin to Get Bored
- Trips From the Field Begin Returning and Campers get Shower, Sleep, and Travel Home
- Hikes, Fly Fishing and Town trip to the ”Op-Shop” Thrift Store Planned and Facilitated
- First Sleep Since Evac
## Timeline of Evacuation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>July 26th</th>
<th>July 27th</th>
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<th>July 30th</th>
<th>July 31st</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Trips Continue to Return&lt;br&gt; • Half of Seasonal Staff Gets First Day-Off</td>
<td>• Last Trip Returns&lt;br&gt; • Expeditions Gets Resupply&lt;br&gt; • Camper Comes Off Expeditions Sick&lt;br&gt; • Only 4 Campers left&lt;br&gt; • Staff Departures Begin</td>
<td>• 0 Campers / 15 Staff&lt;br&gt; • Plans Made to Clear Out From School to Make Room for Red Cross</td>
<td>• Moved to Wilderness Baptist Church in Dubois&lt;br&gt; • TVRC Ranch Still Actively Burning&lt;br&gt; • 1st FedEx Pick-Up&lt;br&gt; • 0 Campers 10 Staff&lt;br&gt; • Letter Sent to the Whole TVRC Community...Pre cursor to the LMFF</td>
<td>• 1st Containment Lines Established&lt;br&gt; • 2nd FedEx Pick-Up&lt;br&gt; • Staff Start Returning Gear to the Ranch</td>
<td>• 10 Staff Begin to Move back to the Ranch&lt;br&gt; • Clean-Up Begins</td>
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Timeline of Evacuation

- August 1st: Lightning strike...smoke reported
- August 3rd: Expeditions Group Hikes to High Camp on the Shoulder of the Grand
- August 4th: Expedition Group Has "Rock Camp" Training Day
- August 5th: Expeditions Group Depart High Camp for Summit Attempt at 3am, Matty Gets Call From the Summit at 8:51am!
- August 6th: Expeditions Students Depart High Campfire Ceremony, Perspective
- August 7th: Expeditions Students Head Home, Summer 2016 is Closed
Drills, Drills, Drills!

Live Drill

• Fire (Building Fire and Wildfire)
• Lost Camper (Ranch & Trail)
• Full Ranch Evacuation
• Medical Emergency (Critical)
• Lighting (Ranch and Trail)
• Wild Animal

Tabletop Drill

• Intruder / Active Shooter
• Incident Command Structure
• Vehicle Accident
**Drills**

Practice Makes...
Make Friends With Cool People!

2-way Learning
First 15 Minutes in the Command Center

1. Administrative Support: Solely responsible for setting up the Command Center while the Crisis Response Team (CRT) is responding.

2. Incident Commander (IC): Solely responsible for EVERYTHING until duties are delegated.
   - IC: Ensure 9-11 has been called, if necessary. Activate the CRT and the Command Center, and notify the CEO.
     - If a lost camper/staff event, prepare teams to deploy into their search quadrants.
   - IC: Gather basic intelligence/information. Clearly define the problem.
   - IC: Establish key positions. Identify them with vests, tags, or other means. Brief them on the nature of the problem.
   - IC: In collaboration with the Section Chiefs, establish Incident Priorities.
     a. Life Safety (Immediate threats to campers/staff/victims)
     b. Incident Stabilization
     c. Property Conservation
   - IC: Develop Incident Objectives to address immediate strategies. Consider what actions must be accomplished in the short term and long term. These will be refined by the Section Chiefs in the Section Incident Objectives. POST and COMMUNICATE the immediate objectives.

3. Command Staff and Section Chiefs: Focus on Incident Objectives and assign key positions to support achieving these objectives.

4. IC: Ensure all communications system are functioning:
   - Internal Communications: Ensure all systems are functional for inbound and outbound communications.
   - External Communications: Establish direct communications with the local emergency responders, Jackson Office or other entities as appropriate.

5. IC: Ensure the mechanics for gathering priority data are established and posted where applicable (document recorders, forms).

6. Public Information Officer: Prepare a short notification to be distributed for all staff for consistency in the situation status and be prepared to distribute to media, family and campers.

7. IC: Emergency Operations Plan: Ensure the plan is available and the tools are distributed to the CRT and Leadership Team to be successful in their roles.

It is the #1 priority to prevent any further harm in the event of an emergency!
A RESOLUTION OF GRATITUDE FROM
THE TVRC EDUCATION FOUNDATION TO
THE DUBOIS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

WHENEVER, The TVRC Education Foundation provides a western adventure in the heart of the
Wyoming wilderness for boys and girls each summer; and

WHENEVER, it is the wilderness of those lands that has inspired the imaginations of campers for
generations; and

WHENEVER, it is because of that wilderness that TVRC’s very existence depends upon the willingness
of the members of the Dubois Volunteer Fire Department to leave their homes and families at a moment’s
notice and risk their lives to save our camp; and

WHENEVER, in July 2016, the members of the Dubois Volunteer Fire Department joined the battle
against the Lava Mountain Fire and in doing so defended TVRC as if it were their own; and

WHENEVER, those volunteers served as a critical component of the Incident Command team by
assessing conditions at TVRC on a daily basis and providing important information at Incident Command
meetings; and

WHENEVER, when the battle was over and the smoke cleared, TVRC was saved; and

WHENEVER, it was evident at all times that the members of the Dubois Volunteer Fire Department
performed with selflessness, professionalism, and character; and

WHENEVER, in doing so, they helped bring order to the chaos and hope to the feeling of
hopelessness; and

WHENEVER, when camp resumes at TVRC, the efforts of the Dubois Volunteer Fire Department will
serve as an enduring model of civic duty and compassion for others;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FORMALLY RESOLVED THAT: The Board of
Directors of The TVRC Education Foundation wishes to express its profound gratitude to the members
of the Dubois Volunteer Fire Department, and wishes to confer on them the honorary title of TVRC Rough
Riders.

Jennie Bertiant • Karen Casey • Mike Duncan • Annie Egan • Christopher Hadley
Peter Kenyon • Betsy Martindale • Robbin Mommsen • Walter McLallen • Wilhelm Northrop
Joe Ragland • Kate Schutt • Crossan Seybolt

October 2016
One Slide About Insurance...

Under our policy, Business Income Loss is defined as:

“The expected net profit not realized”

and

“Continuing normal expenses, including payroll incurred in order to be able to resume operations with the same quality of service”
### 4 Take Aways

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Thank You!

Matthew Cook, MSW
mcook@tvrcamp.org
307-690-7496