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**Lead by Example Award Winners for 2014**

Boise, Idaho – The National Wildfire Coordinating Group Leadership Subcommittee announced the 2014 Lead by Example Award winners: Paul Cerda, Kevin Donham, Kip Gray, Eric Hipke, Wally Ochoa, Alex Robertson and Bryan Scholz.

The Lead by Example Award is based on three categories: motivation and vision; mentoring and teamwork; and innovation or initiative. Individuals and groups from federal, state, local and tribal agencies are eligible for the award.

The annual award was created to honor Paul Gleason, a wildland firefighter whose career spanned several decades. Gleason is best known for developing the LCES (Lookout, Communication, Escape Routes, Safety Zones) concept that became the foundation of wildland firefighter safety. The awards highlight Gleason’s influence on and contribution to wildland fire management, while honoring those who demonstrate the spirit of leadership for which he was known.

**Award Recipients for 2014**

Five award recipients are recognized for their commitment to demonstrating what a “learning organization” should reflect. These winners include Kevin Donham, Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest; Kip Gray, Medford Fire Department; Eric Hipke, National Interagency Fire Center; Alex Robertson, Deschutes National Forest; and Bryan Scholz, Ochoco National Forest.

Since 1994, each of these recipients have honored friends and fallen comrades by sharing the story of the South Canyon fire with others. The impact of first-hand accounts on staff rides and through refresher training videos and presentations has helped shape and change the trajectory of the wildland fire service culture. Due to this leadership example, wildland fire professionals for generations to come will learn about and pay tribute to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Paul Cerda, Rocky Mountain National Park, was selected for his vision and clear intent while leading the Alpine Interagency Hotshot Crew to Type 1 Wildland Fire Module status. This bold effort to diversify for the betterment of the wildland fire service took insight and courage. Paul’s motivational influence created depth within his organization as well as strengthened the entire service through positive influence.

Richard “Wally” Ochoa Jr,Winema Interagency Hotshot Crew, was recognized for his attention to duty, dedication to the principles of integrity, and the respect given to those he meets. Regardless of authority or title, Wally has mentored others and built quality teams in spite of life-altering situations.

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