



INTERNATIONAL WILDLAND FIRE SAFETY AWARD

Award History

The International Association of Wildland Fire (IAWF) inaugurated the International IAWF Wildland Fire Safety Award in 1997, at the Association's first Wildland Fire Safety Summit held in Rossland, British Columbia. The IAWF presents this award to a deserving individual selected from nominees submitted to a committee comprised of previous award recipients and a member of the IAWF board. The award is given to someone in the wildland firefighting community who has made a significant contribution to wildland firefighter safety, either directly on the fireline or indirectly through management, cultural changes, or through wildland fire research.

Award Recipients

1997	Chuck Hartley Battalion Chief: Mt. Baldy District, Angeles National Forest, United States Forest Service (retired); presented in Rossland, British Columbia, Canada.
1998	Paul A. Gleason USFS, Hazardous Fuels Program Manager, Arapaho & Roosevelt National Forests, Redfeather Ranger District, United States Forest Service; presented in Winthrop, Washington, USA.
1999	R. H. (Harry) Luke Pioneering Australian Bushfire Researcher and co-author of "Bushfires in Australia," presented in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.

2000

Alan Beaver

Planning and Science Supervisor, Yukon Fire Management, Whitehorse, Yukon; presented in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

2001

Dick Rothermel

Project Leader, Fire Behavior Research Work Unit, USFS Intermountain Fire Sciences Laboratory, United States Forest Service (retired); presented in Missoula, Montana, USA.

2003

Martin (Marty) E. Alexander

Senior Fire Behavior Research Officer, Natural Resources Canada, Canadian Forestry Service, Northern Forestry Centre; presented in Toronto, Canada.

2004

Ted Putnam

Fire Equipment Specialist, Missoula Technology and Development Center, United States Forest Service (retired); presented in Missoula, Montana, USA.

2008

Robert Mutch



US Forest Service (retired); presented in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

2009

Brian Sharkey

Researcher, US Forest Service, Missoula Technology and Development Center (MTDC), The University of Montana – Missoula, Montana, USA.

2010

Jim Cook



National Interagency Fire Center, Boise, Idaho, USA; presented at the Wildland Fire Safety Summit in Missoula, Montana.

2011

Dave Thomas



Renoveling LLC, Ogden, Utah, USA; presented at the Wildland Fire Safety Summit in Sydney, Australia.

2015

Marc Castellnou



Catalan Fire Service, Catalonia Spain; presented at the Safety Summit/Human Dimensions Conference in Boise, Idaho.

2017

Professor Domingos Viegas



University of Coimbra, Portugal; presented at the Wildland Fire Safety Summit in Barcelona, Spain.

2018

Kelly Close



Battalion Chief, Poudre Fire Authority. Colorado, USA; presented at the Wildland Fire Safety Summit/ Human Dimensions Conference in Asheville, North Carolina, USA.

2021

Bret Butler



Missoula Fire Lab, Missoula, Montana, USA; presented at the Virtual Safety Summit.

2022

Scott Jones



Assistant Chief Jones retired from the Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACoFD) in 2005 after decades of dedicated service. Prior to his employment with LACoFD, Chief Jones served as a firefighter with the US Forest Service (USFS), presented at the Fire and Climate Conference in Pasadena, CA.

2024

Ben Strahan



Superintendent of the Eldorado Hotshots, a position he has held since 2020. presented at the Fire Behavior and Fuels Conference in Boise, ID.