Twisp Mayor
Soo Ing-Moody
July 18th, 2014 ~ 12am – Davis Canyon south Power and Fiber loss.
No relief

Valley copes with impact of new fires, storms, outages and evacuations

Tuesday. All areas that had been at Level 3 evacuation had dropped to lower levels, fire officials said.

The Rising Eagle Road Fire started Friday (Aug. 1) around 2 p.m. by a spark from a flat tire on a trailer, which ignited grass near Signal Hill Road off of Highway 20 between Twisp and Winthrop. Crews from Okanogan Fire District 6 and Department of Natural Resources responded, but within minutes the blaze erupted into a wind-driven fire storm that looked all-too-familiar to residents of the region.”

Intense battle

For hours an all-out battle ensued, during which a total of 17 helicopters, six water scoops, two air tankers and the DC-10 tanker (dropping retardant) attacked the fire. Monitors pulled off along Old Twisp Highway and the Twisp-Winthrop Eastside County Road across the valley and watched in awe as the fire outside their homes drank everything in its path.”
EVACUATIONS
2015 Twisp River Fire

TWISP FIRE
TWISP, WA

HEROES REMEMERED

Tom Zbyszewski  age 20
Andrew Zajac  age 26
Richard Wheeler  age 31

08.19.2015
2015 Okanogan County Wildfires

- Okanogan County PUD
  - $4,565,910 Accrued Damages
  - $233,000 Telecom/Fiber Damages
  - 792 Power Poles Damaged
  - 221 Miles of Affected Power Lines
  - Over 6500 Customers Affected by Power Loss

In Honor of Our Fallen Firefighters

Total Okanogan County: 509,739 ac

**All values are estimates as of 09-18-2015**
TWISP CHALLENGES ON THE GROUND
INTEROPERABILITY CHALLENGES
LESSONS LEARNED
LESSONS LEARNED

✓ Need reliable communications infrastructure and systems in place prior to an emergency.
LESSONS LEARNED

✓ Need to build stronger partnerships in advance of an emergency (break out of agency/organization siloes).
LESSONS LEARNED

✓ Need to anticipate breakdowns and failures in the system; develop plans that build in flexibility.
OVERCOMING CHALLENGES

- Local Improvements Made -
CONTINUING CHALLENGES
- Opportunities for Improvement -

- Ensure access equity for communications development and reliability in service for all areas of the state – especially in rural areas
CONTINUING CHALLENGES
- Opportunities for Improvement -

- Engage local governments to participate in the support and development of a comprehensive state-wide Emergency Communications Coordination Strategy.
CONTINUING CHALLENGES
- Opportunities for Improvement -

➢ Support Twisp / Methow Valley’s NEED of an emergency communications / operations facility
Thank you!