

Delaware sends Type 6 engine to North Carolina



PHOTO: From left, Adam N. Keever of Newark and Sam Topper of Federalsburg, MD are currently serving a two-week assignment with Delaware's Type 6 engine on the Nantahala National Forest in North Carolina. The team departed October 4, 2019 from Blackbird State Forest in Smyrna, Delaware.

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MURPHY, N.C. – The Delaware Forest Service has dispatched a Type 6 engine and crew to the [Nantahala National Forest](#) in North Carolina. The unit will provide resource and readiness capability as a combination of drought, fuel moisture, and weather conditions have created above average [potential for increased wildfire activity](#) across the [Southern Region](#). Delaware's crew consists of Sam Topper of Maryland, a senior forester with the Delaware Forest Service, and Adam N. Keever of Newark, a conservation technician with DNREC's Division of Parks & Recreation.

This is the first assignment of 2019 for the Delaware engine crew. In 2018, the Delaware Forest Service dispatched a Type 6 engine to battle California's [Ferguson Fire](#), which caused two fatalities and burned almost 97,000 acres in the Sierra National Forest and Yosemite National Park. In 2017, the Type 6 engine and crew was sent to the [Eagle Creek Fire](#), which burned more than 50,000 acres in the Columbia River Gorge in

Washington and Oregon.

“One of the Delaware Forest Service’s core missions is providing critical resources for wildfire suppression and emergency response—both locally and nationally,” said Kyle Hoyd, Delaware’s assistant state forestry administrator who oversees its wildland fire program. “We take pride in the fact that our Type 6 engine and experienced crew members can support the needs of our federal and state partners when we are called upon to serve.”



GRAPHIC: “Days Since Rain” map in the South: A prolonged lack of rain has heightened the risk of wildfire activity in the region.



Delaware’s Type 6 engine is shown here at the [Panther Lookout on the Nantahala National Forest](#). The two-person engine crew is scheduled to serve a two-week assignment in the Southern Region to provide resource readiness for increased wildfire risk.