

*Central  
Suppression  
1910 Fires*

Excerpt from Roscoe Haines' letter of November 25 (OO Coeur d'Alene-Fire, (Claims) Adams, S. D.) to District Forester.

"On the evening of August 20, 1920, a large fire, which had only a short time before destroyed a portion of the city of Wallace, came upon the fire camp of this crew of men, and the flames which had been fanned by the heavy wind prevented the crew from getting into the open to a place of safety and they were forced to seek refuge in the tunnel of the Bullion Mine nearby. Midway between the portal of the tunnel of the Bullion Mine and the portal of the air shaft, which is near the end of the tunnel, there is a crosscut which many of this crew were ~~not~~ able to reach before the smoke and gases became dense in the main tunnel. Those who reached this crosscut saved their lives by getting into the crosscut and placing blankets up over the mouth of the crosscut, thus preventing the smoke and gases from entering it. Eight of the men, however, including Mr. Adams, were unable to reach the crosscut and perished by suffocation in ~~the main~~ tunnel between the air shaft and the portal of the tunnel. Immediately after the flames had subsided somewhat, those who survived reached the open and brought out the bodies of those who perished, and buried them near the portal of the Bullion tunnel.

"On August 30, however, a crew under the direction of Mr. W. G. Weigle, then Forest Supervisor of this Forest, were able to reach this mine, and they brought out the bodies to Wallace, Idaho, where the body of Mr. Adams, with others, was interred in the cemetery at Wallace.