

# CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

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## California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

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### **CAL FIRE Lifts Airtanker Safety Stand Down**

**Sacramento** - Earlier today the National Transportation Safety Board notified CAL FIRE that their investigation into the Tanker 81 accident has found no structural failures or aging aircraft issues involved in the crash. Immediately following this finding, CAL FIRE has lifted the safety stand down of the CAL FIRE S-2T airtanker fleet, which had been initiated following the accident. Airbase personnel have returned to routine daily safety inspections and will be permitted to resume normal flight activities today.

“This has been a difficult week for the Department,” said Chief Ken Pimlott, director of CAL FIRE. “Words can’t express my sorrow for the Hunt family, but I am incredibly thankful of the work our pilots, employees and fire service partners have done following this tragic accident.”

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