



NWCG Equipment Technology Committee

Equipment Bulletin



Date: March 2, 2017

ETC-EB-2017-01

Subject: U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission issues STIHL chainsaw recall

Issue: The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has issued a recall for STIHL chainsaws. The recall is for STIHL MS 461 chainsaws, and the MS 461 R chainsaw with a wrap handle. Both affected chainsaw models are commonly used in wildland fire operations. Recalled chainsaws have a serial number between 173092800 and 181993952. The location of serial number is under the front hand guard on the sprocket side. STIHL has received reports of pinched or leaking fuel lines. The fuel line can leak, posing fire and burn hazards. The link to the recall is shown below.

Corrective Action for this recall: Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled chainsaws and return them to an authorized STIHL Dealer for a free inspection and free repair.

Additional Information: There is currently no evidence of a connection between this recall and the ongoing fuel geysering problem.

Stay abreast of up-to-date information from the Forest Service National Technology and Development Program (NTDP) regarding fuel geysering and always assume all fuel tanks and containers are pressurized before removing the fuel cap. The link to the NTDP website and previous ETC Equipment Bulletin regarding safe fuel handling can be found here:

STIHL Recall: <https://m.stihlusa.com/information/recalls/ms-461-product-recall/>

Review information regarding the National Fuel Geysering Awareness Campaign:
<https://sites.google.com/a/firenet.gov/national-fuel-geysering-awareness-campaign/>

Read the: NWCG ETC Equipment Bulletin Safe Fuel Handling:
<https://www.nwcg.gov/sites/default/files/committee/docs/etc-eb-steps-for-safe-chainsaw-fuel-handling.pdf>