



FIRE PROTECTION TRAINING

Procedures Handbook 4300

TOPIC: The 18 Fire Situations that Shout "Watch Out"

TIME FRAME: :30

LEVEL OF INSTRUCTION: Level I

BEHAVIORAL OBJECTIVE:

Condition: A written or oral quiz

Behavior: The student will list or recite the 18 Fire Situations that Shout "Watch Out"

Standard: With a minimum of 80% accuracy

- MATERIALS NEEDED:**
- Writing board and pens
 - Audio visual equipment
 - Handouts of wallet sized card with the 18 Fire Situations that Shout "Watch Out" or NWCG, NFES #1077, PMS# 461, IRPG

- REFERENCES:**
- Handbook 1700, Health and Safety Handbook
 - Wildland Firefighting, Clayton, Day, and McFadden, Chapter 12
 - IFSTA, Wildland Fire Fighting for Structural Firefighters, Chapter 8
 - Firefighter's Handbook on Wildland Firefighting, 3rd Edition, Teie, 2005 Chapter 1

PREPARATION: Wildland fire fighting is a dangerous job. It requires that you be thoroughly familiar with and aware of the hazards involved on the fireline. Your life and the lives of others may depend upon your ability to recognize a dangerous situation before it develops. All personnel in CAL FIRE have an obligation to work safely and to protect themselves and others from injury.



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PRESENTATION	APPLICATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none">2. One of the most important factors affecting fire behavior is weather. It is usually broken down into three parts<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Temperatureb) Relative humidityc) Wind<ul style="list-style-type: none">1) Each has a direct effect upon the burning conditions3. Watch for nature's danger signals, wind change, dust devils, temperature change, approaching weather system, etc4. Maintain communications with your supervisor <p>E. You are uninformed on strategy, tactics and hazards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Strategy: overall plan to achieve the fire suppression objectives2. Tactics: specific actions done to suppress the fire3. Hazards in relation to strategy and tactics<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Heavy fuelsb) Topographic features such as slopes, chimneys, and chutesc) Falling operationsd) Firing operations4. All personnel must be familiar with overall strategy	<p>Information Sheet #5</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Tactics to accomplish strategyb) Hazards involved with accomplishing tactics	
<p>F. You have been given an assignment and instructions unclear to you</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Repeat them back until you clearly understand, especially before going on the fireline2. Communicate frequently with your supervisor and keep him/her posted on your progress3. Write down critical information	Information Sheet #6
<p>G. You have no communication link with crew members or supervisors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Communications with all crew members or supervisors is important to<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Be alert to changing conditionsb) Be alert to problems developingc) Be alert to potential blow-up conditionsd) Maintain control and prevent panic	Information Sheet #7
<p>H. You are constructing fireline without a safe anchor point</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. An anchor point(s) is critical when planning your suppression tactics	Information Sheet #8

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) A point or location not currently, or likely in the future to be threatened by fire spreadb) A place to begin your fireline where you are likely to hold your line without being "hooked" or "out flanked" by fire <p>I. You are building a fireline downhill toward a fire below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Have escape routes established ahead of time2. Stay alert, this is an extremely dangerous situation3. Stay with your crew4. Post lookout(s) as necessary, be alert to conditions around you5. Fuels on the upslope are preheated and will burn rapidly6. Spot fires on the upslope can be expected7. Fires may generate momentum upslope, jump across hoselays, constructed hand or dozer lines and/or fire retardant drops8. Utilize the Downhill Checklist in the Incident Response Pocket Guide (IRPG)	<p>Information Sheet #9</p>
<p>J. You are attempting a frontal assault on a fire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Position engine/vehicles so as to have an immediate escape route	<p>Information Sheet #10</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">2. Many of these frontal assault tactics require numerous engines, restricting access and maneuverability3. Observe the convection column direction and watch for spot fires behind you4. Do not wander into the green at an oncoming fire5. Be alert and follow instructions6. Charge hose lines before starting the frontal attack7. Reevaluate escape routes to safety zones constantly when attempting frontal assault tactics<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Maintain situational awareness <p>K. You are in a heavy cover with unburned fuel between you and the fire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. An extremely dangerous situation, particularly if the fire is spotting in your direction2. Always requires that lookouts be posted at strategic points for constant observation3. Line may be burned out behind you, by your crew supervisor, as it is being constructed4. Remain in constant contact with your fireline supervisor5. Be prepared to use escape routes immediately, and remain alert	<p>Information Sheet #11</p>



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<ul style="list-style-type: none">6. Make sure any constructed line is wide enough and clean, down to bare, mineral soil7. Anchor your starting point to insure holding line without being flanked by fire8. Keep looking behind you to ensure that the fire line is secure <p>L. You cannot see the main fire and you are not in communication with anyone who can</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. A very dangerous situation2. Scout area thoroughly3. Pre-plan escape routes and advise others of their location(s)4. Post lookouts as necessary5. Be alert to changing fire weather conditions6. Follow instructions from your supervisor7. Establish communications as quickly as possible	<p>Information Sheet #12</p>
<p>M. You are fighting fire on a hillside where rolling material can ignite fuel below you</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. The steepness of the slope affects both the fire's rate and direction of spread<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) On uphill side, flames are closer to the ground, preheating fuels above the fireb) Convected heat rising upslope causes a draft, increasing the rate of spread	<p>Information Sheet #13</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) Wind currents generally flow uphill during the day and downhill at night 2. Construct roll trenches on slopes to hold all rolling material 3. Have established escape routes, make them known where they are 4. Cut your way into spot fire areas, do not just walk through the green 5. Post lookouts as necessary 	
<p>N. You feel the weather getting hotter and drier</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There will usually be a decrease in humidity and fuel moisture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Air is usually drier during the day than it is at night because temperatures are usually cooler at night b) Fuels, then, are also drier during the day than at night c) The result is that fires will normally burn more rapidly during the day 2. Be alert to an increase in hot spots appearing on the fireline 3. The behavior of the fire is likely to change 	<p>Information Sheet #14</p>
<p>O. You notice that the wind begins to blow, increase or change direction</p>	<p>Information Sheet #15</p>

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<p>Q. You are away from a burned area where terrain and/or cover makes travel to safety zones difficult and slow</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Maintain at least 10' interval while walking or working2. Know where the fire is at all times, in relation to your location3. Know where you are going4. Stay as close to the burn as possible5. Be alert for rolling rock and fuels<ol style="list-style-type: none">a) Warn others below if something starts rolling downhillb) Make sure you have secure footing on steep slopesc) Shout "rock down"6. In dense fuels cut your way through, even if its nothing more than a walking path wide enough for others to follow and widen as necessary <p>R. You feel like taking a nap near the fireline</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Sleep in shifts if necessary2. Sleep as a group and only with permission from your fireline supervisor3. Do not wander off from crew, stay together4. Never sleep in the green; always in the burn5. Look, Up, Down, Around for hazard trees, heavy equipment, rolling materials, etc.	<p>Information Sheet #18</p>

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PRESENTATION	APPLICATION
<p>6. Post a lookout to stay awake and protect crew members from fire</p>	



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THE 18 FIRE SITUATIONS THAT
SHOUT "WATCH OUT"

SUMMARY:

There are numerous situations that you may find yourself in that could jeopardize your safety. If you pay attention to the 18 Fire Situations that Shout "Watch Out", you will be better prepared to make correct decisions if an emergency condition arises.

EVALUATION:

A written or oral quiz.

ASSIGNMENT:

To be determined by instructor(s).