

## **ON-SITE WEATHER OBS – FIELD OBSERVATIONS**

**7815**

(April 2015)

Timely and multiple field observations are necessary for firefighter safety and accurate spot weather forecasts. All CAL FIRE line personnel shall be proficient Weather Observers and knowledgeable in the appropriate use of Belt Weather Kits and Electronic Weather Monitoring Devices.

### **BELT WEATHER KIT**

**7815.1**

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The Belt Weather Kit includes a belt-mounted case with pockets fitted for anemometer, compass, sling psychrometer, psychometric tables or slide rule, water bottle, pencils, and often a Mobile Fire Weather Observer's Record. A Belt Weather Kit is used to take weather observations and measure on-site fire weather conditions. These observations can also be used by an Incident Meteorologist, Fire Weather Forecaster, Fire Behavior Analyst or any other person with an interest in the weather. Observations include location, date, time of the day, elevation, aspect, vegetation type, sky cover, air temperature (dry bulb temperature), wet bulb temperature, wind speed and direction, relative humidity, and general information concerning the individual observation site.

### **HAND HELD ELECTRONIC MONITORING DEVICE**

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Hand held electronic weather monitoring devices can be utilized to collect local weather observations. Users shall follow manufacturer recommendations on calibration, maintenance of electronic devices, and proper use of the device. If a Weather Observer chooses to utilize a Hand Held Electronic Monitoring Device, it will be noted with the observation documentation.

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[\(see Forms and Form Samples\)](#)