



Day 5

Leadership and Human Performance

Week of Remembrance June 30-July 6

Recent research in the wildland fire community has shown that the most highly regarded, highest performing, and safest leaders are those who are more mindful of themselves, others, and the environment (Waldron & Ebbeck, 2015). Leadership begins by knowing and leading oneself, followed by leading others. Like a compass guiding the direction through changing terrain, knowing and being mindful of one's deepest motives and desires (values) as a leader can serve as an internal guide to leading the self and others through the easiest and most difficult situations. By exploring, identifying and being aware (or mindful) of your deepest motives for how you want to behave and act as a person and leader on an ongoing basis will enable you to lead yourself and others most effectively.

Below is an exercise to identify and reflect on important values as a leader. There are no "right" or "wrong" answers.

- Take a few minutes and note five values that best complete the sentence for you personally.
Then
- Take a few minutes and discuss as a crew or with other coworkers - what values are most important for a leader of your crew/group to have? Why?

Complete the following sentence: " _____ is a 'cornerstone' in my approach to leadership."

(Exercise Modified from Tom Siebold)

ADVENTURE
ASSERTIVENESS
AUTHENTICITY
CHALLENGE
COMFORT
CONFORMITY
CONNECTION
CONTROL
COOPERATION
COMPASSION
CREATIVITY
CURIOSITY
DIRECTNESS
EQUALITY
EXPERTNESS
FAIRNESS
FITNESS
FLEXIBILITY
FREEDOM

GRATITUDE
HAPPINESS
HARD WORK
HARMONY
HELPFULNESS
HONESTY
HUMILITY
HUMOR
INVOLVEMENT
ORDER
INDEPENDENCE
INTEGRITY
KINDNESS
LOYALTY
MINDFULNESS
MORALITY/ETHICS
OPEN-MINDEDNESS
PATIENCE
PERSISTENCE

POWER
PREDICTABILITY
RESPONSIBILITY
RESPONSIVENESS
RECOGNITION
SECURITY
SELF-AWARENESS
SELF-CARE
SELF-DEVELOPMENT
SELF-RESPECT
SKILLFULNESS
SUPPORTIVENESS
TRADITION
TRUST
VARIETY
WISDOM
OTHER VALUES:
?
?
?

Additional Resources:

- [New MTDC video on Leadership Diversity](#)
- [Making Sense of it All - Fireline Leadership](#)
- [How to Build a Leader \(Leadership Development video\)](#)
- [Fireline Leadership: \(WFSTAR video\)](#)
- [Learning From Successful Organizations: \(WFSTAR video\)](#)



The topics for the NWCG "Wildland Firefighter Week of Remembrance" have been drawn from the Human Performance Optimization course taught as a part of the USFS Apprentice Academy in cooperation with the Missoula Technology and Development Center (MTDC) and is rooted in the desire to prepare wildland fire personnel to optimally manage themselves and others at any given time. Review and resources have been contributed by the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center, NIFC External Affairs, the Wildland Fire annual refresher group, and the Wildland Fire Leadership Subcommittee.