



INSTRUCTOR GUIDE



WILDLAND FIRE SAFETY REFRESHER

Mission Statement

The intent of annual fireline safety refresher training is to focus line-going personnel on operations and decision-making issues related to fireline and all-hazard incident safety. Refresher training will ensure firefighters have information regarding current initiatives and the upcoming fire season. Refresher training is provided in order to recognize and mitigate risk, maintain safe practices, and reduce accidents and near misses.

The 2016 Fire Refresher was built for firefighters, by firefighters.

<http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/>



Notes to Instructor

Introduction

Annual Fireline Safety Refresher Training is required for all personnel participating in wildland fire who may be subject to assignments on the fireline. Check specific agency policy at the WFSTAR website to determine if this training package meets refresher training requirements of all the attendees.

Expectations

****NOTE: This is not a plug and play product. Instructor preparation and student interaction is required.**

Instructors should facilitate a quality refresher that engages all students no matter their ICS qualification or firefighting experience. The success of this program is dependent on your ability to stimulate meaningful discussion during group exercises. Classes with a wide array of experiences and qualifications can provide an excellent opportunity for the less experienced to be mentored and for the more experienced to rethink old habits.

Instructor Prerequisites

Lead instructors must be at least Single Resource Boss (SRB) qualified, and unit instructors must be at least Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1) qualified.

Adjunct instructors may be utilized to provide limited instruction in specialized knowledge and skills at the discretion of the lead instructor. They must be experienced, proficient and knowledgeable of current issues in their field of expertise.

All instructors will need the knowledge and skills to utilize current educational technology, as it relates to the WFSTAR website. Examples would be streaming and downloading interactive videos as well as the use of apps and mobile devices.



Equipment and Materials

A list of equipment and other material required for course presentation includes:

- Media player
- Instructor Guide and Student Workbooks from [WFSTAR](http://www.wfstar.com) website
- *Incident Response Pocket Guide*, one for each student
- Sign-in sheet/training documentation form
- Flip chart(s) with paper and marking pens
- Download modules from [WFSTAR](http://www.wfstar.com) website
- Optional: *New Generation Fire Shelter* video, NFES #2711
- Optional: *The New Generation Fire Shelter* booklet, NFES #2710

Administration

The instructor is responsible for identifying necessary equipment, materials, and supplies. The instructor is also responsible for recording attendance and assuring that evaluations are completed and returned:

ON THE WEB: http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/contact_comments.html
BY MAIL: NWCG Training Development
 Attn. Travis Touchette
 3833 S. Development Avenue
 Boise, ID 83705
BY FAX: (208) 387-5378
BY E-MAIL: ttouchet@blm.gov

If all modules are utilized, the length of this program is approximately four hours, depending on time allowed for exercises. Additional time will be needed for the fire shelter deployment practice.



Hazard Tree Proximity and Target Avoidance Choosing Where We Work, Walk and Stand

Overview:

This module is intended to examine how to avoid becoming the target of a hazard tree when in the field.

Target Audience: Wildland Firefighters

Time: Video 4 minutes

Exercise: 20 minutes

Instructor Tasks

- Introduce the overview listed above
- Watch the Hazard Tree Proximity and Target Avoidance video on the WFSTAR site. Discuss in small groups or as a class the questions below. If done in groups, share with the class.
- We recommend using a projector to display the PDF student workbook questions. A second alternative for viewing the student workbook questions is for students to utilize their mobile devices. If possible, don't print this student workbook exercise.

Please encourage students to submit feedback for the 2016 Fire Refresher using the QR code below or the following link: <http://tinyurl.com/zusqlb7>





Activity

A hazard tree can only become a hazard if it has a target. In this exercise we will explore ideas and techniques to avoid becoming a target.

- Dive into your own past experience around trees. Whether recreating in the woods, involved with project work, or on the fireline, think about a situation where trees presented a noteworthy hazard. Have you seen a tree or a limb fall without warning?
 - In your group, discuss your past experience, and how to avoid becoming a target in such situations.
- When entering an area with trees, identify 3 factors that weigh in with your decision, to work walk and stand. *Your response can include factors other than tree hazards.*
- The next time you're out in the field:
 - How will you identify target zones?
 - What will you do after identifying a target zone(s)?
 - How will you communicate the target zone with others in the area?

Instructor Notes:
