Task

Develop a good assessment of four captains’ leadership traits and the effect of their command presences on their boats (command climate).

Purpose

Foster good leadership qualities in future fire leaders.

End State

Use the episodes to identify character traits in the boat captains that can be used for self-evaluations and development. Open dialogue needs to be encouraged. Be willing to set multiple days aside for this project throughout the fire season.

Set-up

Identify four groups that will diagnose a predetermined boat and its captain (Cornelia Marie, Northwestern, Wizard and Time Bandit). The focus for each group will be a designated boat and captain, while keeping a mindful eye on the others throughout the series.

Key Observation Concepts

What is the general group consensus of leadership style of the assigned boat captain?

What impacts does this leadership style have on the boat crew’s safety, cohesion, production and moral?

What personal resemblance or differences do you have when you compare yourself to the assigned boat captain?

General analysis of all boat captains related to safety, cohesion, production and moral of the crews.

Ethics and values of captains or crewmembers influence life on the boat.

What boat and captain do you most want to be like?
Implementation Suggestions

Set aside several hours at a time to watch multiple episodes, 16 in all. It will take several days to complete this project. Give lengthy breaks for group discussion. After a few individual group discussions, share findings with entire crew. This project cannot be done with one or two episodes. It is necessary to work through 75% or more of the episodes to meet the intent. A broader picture is necessary to develop a good assessment of the captain’s leadership traits and their effects on the boat.

Break up the weeks and months with a few long days focused on this project. Recommendation is one day every two weeks for each session.

Resources