

Staff Ride

Resources



Wildland Fire Leadership Development Program

Blackwater Fire – Audio Transcript

Voice of Johnny J. Levine, Stand #4

- The farmer, no a ranger, told us to get all around, one behind the other one, in case the fire was out of control you know, at that time, and we went in case of the fire comes in put it and approach us, we was supposed to fight each other's ashes that comes in close, one behind the other one. And I uh and then he told me if the smokes comes in to lay down on the ground and to leave what a inch and a half or two inches from the ground to breathe you know, and I don't know (remorseful chuckle) I don't think we could stand be in that position for so long because when the real thing came down, which we didn't know anything about it, ashes and then the smoke came in, and nobody.. I couldn't see my hands in front of my eyes with smoke and this and that, and I was trying to breathe, and I guess everybody was in the same shape, and we got up from the ground, because we couldn't stand it and the heat, you know, and the fire and everything, and some of them wandered off, runnin' up and down.