

Staff Ride

Resources



Wildland Fire Leadership Development Program

Dude Fire – Tactical Decision Games (TDGS)

Stand 1 Tactical Decision Game

You are a Type 3 Incident Commander working on the Payson Ranger District. You assumed command of the Pack Rat Fire at 1800 on June 25 from a Type 4 IC who had been working this fire since 1130 this morning. Weather and fuels conditions are identical to those just described. The fire is 4 miles west of the Dude Fire point of origin from 1990. Resources which were part of the Type 4 organization include one local Type 2 Crew and 2 local Forest Service Type 6 engines. The fire is now 25 acres and continuing to grow. The crews have continued constructing hand line from the heel of the fire and are progressing up the east flank, but the fire is continuing to spread faster than line production efforts. The District FMO is on a single resource assignment in New Mexico and the District Ranger has made it very clear that the fire must be caught as small as possible prior to sending you out to assume command of the fire.

It is now 2045. Fire behavior has not moderated, and in fact has increased slightly. You have just hiked back down from the fire to meet with the District Ranger who has requested to meet with you on the Control Road. She informs you that she has ordered an additional Type 3 IC to assist you and also called dispatch to order three heavy air tankers and four more type 2 crews. She asks you to give her an update on your fire status and would like to be briefed on your containment strategy and couple of talking points prior to meeting with the Phoenix television stations.

Take one minute to compose your communication, and then brief your agency administrator.

Stand 2 Tactical Decision Game

It is 0300 on July 12, 2007 and you are the Crew Boss for the North Carolina Regulars crew assigned to a fire below the Mogollon Rim in Arizona. It is being managed by a local Type 3 IMT. You and your crew have been shuffled back and forth for several hours since checking in hours ago. Since the last communication with your Division Supervisor, you have heard brief, broken radio traffic concerning a transition between Incident Management Teams tomorrow morning. Your Division Supervisor said nothing of the transition or transfer of command when you last visited with him at 0230, nor when he called to give you further instruction about utilizing an old skid trail to tie your handline into a rock quarry $\frac{3}{4}$ mile to the south. Radio communication has been confusing and hectic since checking in, and hasn't improved. You express your concerns to your Crew Representative, with whom you have never worked before. He dismisses the issue and says that you should continue working and you can clarify such information when you next see your Division Supervisor. The Crew Rep adds he plans to return to the road and serve as a lookout for the crew.

What now? Prepare your communications with the appropriate individuals.

Stand 3 Tactical Decision Game

You are the Superintendent of an Interagency Hotshot Crew. As you move with your crew down canyon on your intended escape route to access a safety zone at the Control Road, the upper squad (Squad A) of your crew is cut off by a wall of fire. Recognizing that your upper squad cannot make it through or around the flame front, you yell back an order to Squad A to “turn around and head up hill to the other safety zone.” Radio traffic is heavy and it is hard to break in on the assigned tactical frequency.

What actions and communication initiate now?

What things can you do as a crew leader prior to taking a crew to an incident to increase your ability to maintain accountability?

Stand 4 Tactical Decision Game

You are the crew boss for the Jorgenson Type 2 crew assigned to Nitsirt Fire on the Coconino National Forest. The 200-acre fire on the top of the Mogollon Rim is currently contained and your assignment is to mop-up 200 feet in from the line from the FS Road 300 to the division break (approximately .5 miles.) You leave the crew to get some sodas and other items for the crew from the little store 10 miles down the road. On your way back with your rewards for the crew, you pass two ambulances heading back from the fireline. En route back to your crew, you overhear broken radio traffic between your Division Supervisor and your Crew Representative about sending the crew into the ranger station as soon possible and all gear is loaded up. Upon returning to the crew-hauls, you meet face to face with your Crew Rep, at which point he informs you that a snag fell and struck two of your crewmembers. The crew rep is not sure, but he thinks one will not survive and the other is in very critical condition also.

The Division Supervisor is again calling your crew on the radio. How do you respond to that call?

Following the discussion with the Division Supervisor, you identify the need to contact your supervisor on the home unit via cellular phone to inform them of the incident. Compose your thoughts and initiate that call.