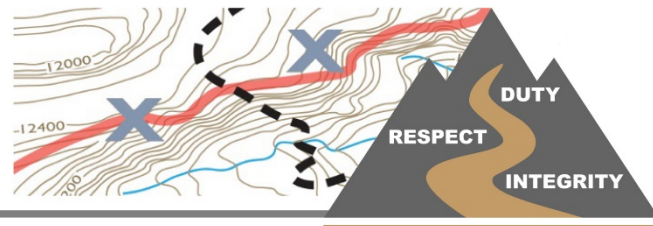


Tactical Decision Games



Wildland Fire Leadership Development Program

FLORIDA INITIAL ATTACK TRACTOR PLOW OPERATOR

INITIAL FACILITATOR INFORMATION—NOT TO BE SHARED WITH STUDENTS

Author(s)

Jeremy Joseph, Florida Forest Service

Target Audience

Tractor Plow Operators, ICT5

Training Objective

Given the scenario below, the player will gather the most accurate information available to provide a proper size up to dispatch. The player will then develop his/her strategy to initial attack the fire. The player must also manage somewhat uncooperative structure fire resources.

Resources Referenced

- **Type II Tractor Plow, ICT5 (Player Role)**
- 2 Type I structure engines (Structure department)
- 1 Type VI brush truck (Structure department)
- 2 Rescues (Structure department)
- 1 Water tender (Structure department)
- 1 Battalion Chief (Structure department)

SCENARIO INFORMATION TO BE SHARED WITH STUDENTS

Facilitator Briefing to Student(s)

You are the on-call Type II tractor/plow operator and ICT5 for your county. You receive a call from dispatch at 2200 with a report of a brush fire in your area. Dispatch says that county structure fire crews are on scene, with structures threatened and an estimate of 10 acres burning in heavy palmetto/gallberry. You retrieve your transport from the office and arrive on scene at 2315. The structure department has the fire knocked down near the houses, but isn't sure how far the fire extends into the woods. You can see significant fire glow through the trees. The battalion chief says that your best access is through a swamp that adjoins your current location. He also says that he wants to release all of his resources, "since we have been waiting for you for over an hour, and we can't do anything else anyhow."

- What do you say to the battalion chief?
- What are your priorities for the next 3 minutes?
- What resources (if any) will you release?
- What information do you need to collect?
- What additional resources (if any) do you request?
- How can you implement all of the elements of LCES given Florida's flat terrain?
- What is your plan of action for this fire?

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR FACILITATOR ONLY

Facilitator “Murphy’s Law” Suggestions

The “Murphy’s Law” suggestions listed below can be added as “What ifs” at any time during the scenario to raise the stress level of the leader. You can also use one of your own:

- Landowner doesn’t want you on property
- Get stuck (Tractor or transport)
- Throw a track
- Flip your plow
- Radio is incompatible with county radio
- Drove tractor through a fence with livestock nearby

Facilitator’s Notes

This TDGS should focus on the initial attack ICT5 tractor plow operator’s ability to manage resources on-scene, collect the most accurate information available, relay that information to dispatch, and formulate an initial attack plan of action. Can structure resources be released? Would a second tractor be a good idea, given the swamp?

The map shows only what the ICT5 sees upon arrival. The facilitator may draw more information on the map as the player collects it. For instance, if the player decides to scout the perimeter of the fire, the facilitator may draw a fire edge on the map. This scenario can be different every time it is used. Perhaps a burned up car is found, or a meth lab, or an existing fire break of some type. If the player does not scout the fire, or send someone to scout it, they will not have this information.

An important aspect of this scenario is to vet the information given. Does the battalion chief understand tractor plow operations? How can they estimate the fire at 10 acres if they haven’t seen the whole thing? Is a swamp really the best way, or should the player scout for better access?

AFTER ACTION REVIEW

Conduct an AAR with focus on the training objective. Use the AAR format found in the Incident Response Pocket Guide to facilitate the AAR. There are four basic questions in the AAR.

1. What was planned?
2. What actually happened?
3. Why did it happen?
4. What can we do next time?

Remember, TDGS shouldn't have a single solution. Keep the focus of the AAR on what was done and why.

LEGEND



E FIRE EDGE

A STRUCTURE

SWAMP

EDGE OF VIEWABLE AREA

