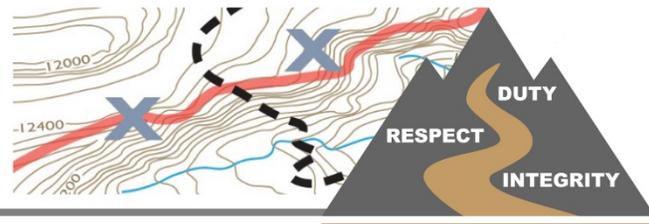


# Tactical Decision Games



Wildland Fire Leadership Development Program

## RESOURCE CAPABILITY AND FITNESS – NEVADA IA

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### INITIAL FACILITATOR INFORMATION—NOT TO BE SHARED WITH STUDENTS

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#### Target Audience

Incident Commander Type 4, Incident Commander Type 5, Single Resource Boss

#### Training Objective

Given the following scenario, players will determine if the resources assigned are adequate to complete the mission. Players should verbally communicate their decisions to the appropriate individuals.

#### Resources Referenced

- **1 Incident Commander Type 4 (Player Role)**
- 10-person Initial Attack Module
- 1 Fire Management Officer

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### SCENARIO INFORMATION TO BE SHARED WITH STUDENTS

#### Facilitator Briefing to Student(s)

You are assigned as the initial attack Incident Commander of a 5-acre fire near Elko, NV. You are also the crew leader of a 10-person initial attack module and are assuming the role of the initial attack Incident Commander. Your module was on several fires in the last week and has worked long hours. All of your folks are experienced and are excited to be on another assignment, but you have seen their production rates reduced with each fire.

The area experienced a dry lightning bust that resulted in multiple fires. The Fire Management Officer (FMO) is swamped with managing all of the fires within his zone. He tells you, “We have limited resources available.”

As you arrive at the fire you note the weather and fuel conditions (SELECT: Local relative humidity, temperature, wind direction and speed for mid-season). The fire is about 2 acres in size. You observe four- to six-foot flame lengths at the head with minor spotting and two- to three-foot flame lengths on the right flank of the fire. The left flank and bottom of the fire appear to be holding on a cow trail. The fire is located on a hillside with sagebrush and some cheat grass, 300 yards below a pinion/juniper covered ridgeline. The time is 1300 and the FMO calls you on the radio and asks for a sizeup.

In 5 minutes, decide on a course of action and prepare any communication contacts that you think are necessary.

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## 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:

- The wind speed increases.
- Fire has increased to 10 acres.
- A crewmember gets hurt.
- A rancher is out on the fire ground with his dozer.
- You get a flat tire on your vehicle.
- Towering cumulous clouds are forming above your fire.

### Facilitator’s Notes

This TDGS should focus on the ICT4’s ability to assess the fire behavior and determine if it’s beyond the capability to contain with the resources on hand. In the scenario they are presented with mid-season fire conditions with several large fires in the area. The fire behavior indicates that the resources on scene won’t be able to contain the fire.

It is not as important for the IC to determine what resources are needed, but that they recognize the need for more. It is also important that the IC recognizes that the fatigue level of their crew plays a role in this decision.

The FMO informs the IC that resources are limited. There is some implied pressure that the crew must take a defensive strategy in suppressing the fire. If the IC follows the implied direction it is likely they will take a defensive strategy and deploy their resources accordingly.

The students should be able to communicate their decisions to the FMO in clear, concise text using the radio. They should also brief their crew using the *Incident Response Pocket Guide* (IRPG) focusing on using the briefing checklist and Risk Management Process.

During the AAR items for discussion may also include:

- How did the FMO's statement influence their decision to order additional resources?
- How well was the commander's intent communicated to the assigned resources?
- How did the fatigue level of their crew influence their decision?
- If an offensive strategy was employed, did the IC determine safe alternatives for completing the assignment?

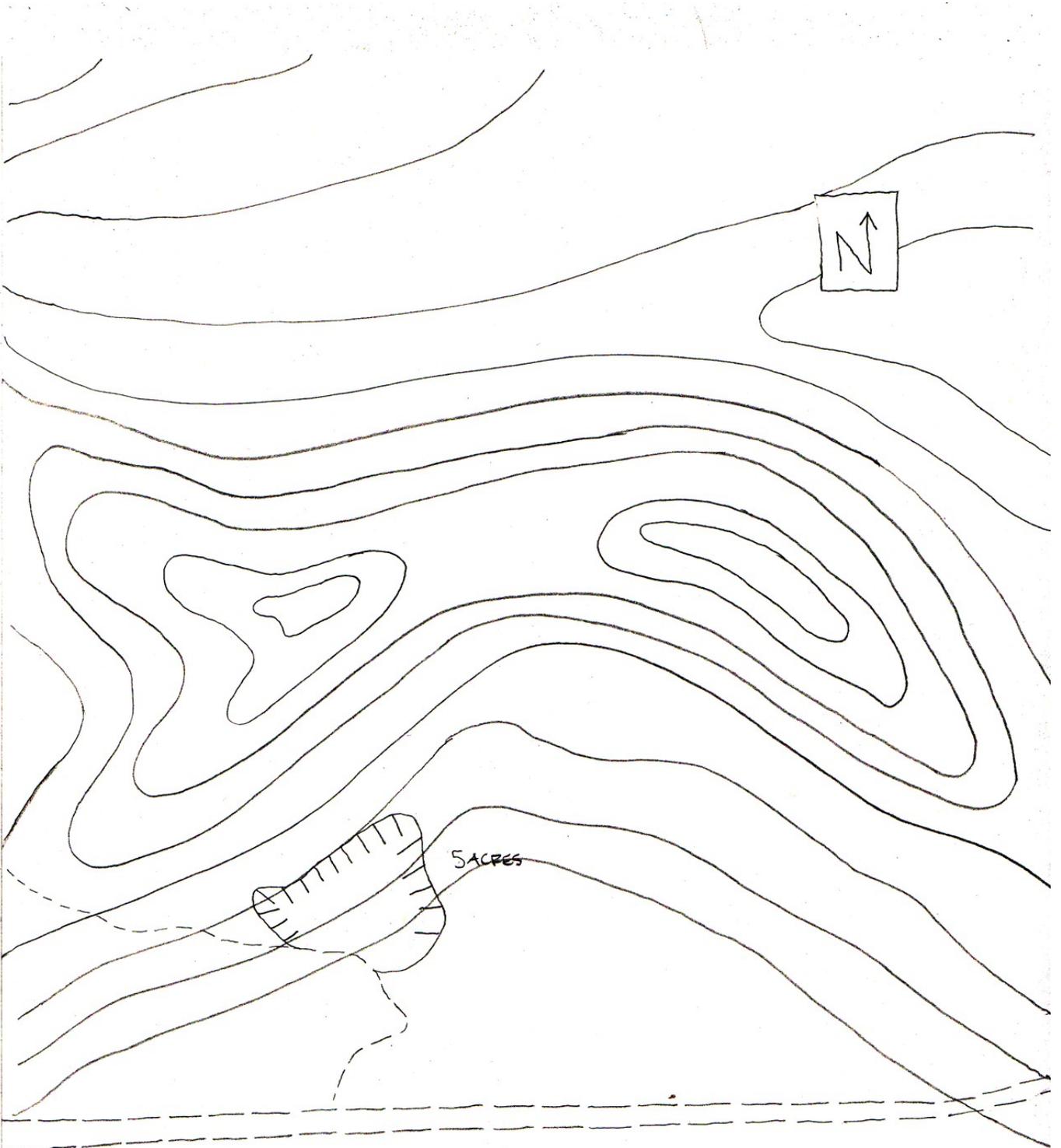
Whatever the decided course of action, ask other participants how they would have approached the situation and why. This may be a good time to discuss rules of engagement or to use the IRPG to discuss risk management from the perspective of choosing an offensive versus defensive strategy.

## 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?

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



- TTTTT FIRE PERIMETER
- COW TRAIL
- TWO-TRACK ROAD