



**TO :**  
**FROM :** National Wildfire Coordinating Group  
**REPLY TO :** NWCG@nifc.gov  
**DATE :** 06/12/2009  
**SUBJECT :** SAFETY ADVISORY : International Association of Fire Chiefs Safety Week

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During the week of June 14-20, fire departments, firefighters, and Emergency Management Services personnel across the country will promote a safety and health week for firefighter and emergency services personnel. NWCG has been a participant with the International Association Fire Chiefs (IAFC), and other groups in the private, and public sector in supporting this call for safety.

This year's Safety Week, titled "Protect Yourself: Your Safety, Health, and Survival Are Your Responsibility," has been expanded to one week to allow participating agencies maximum flexibility for participation. Topics this year include:

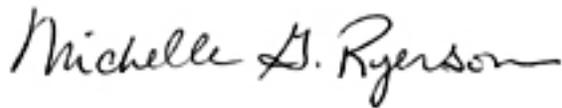
- Safety – Defensive Driving and Roadside Safety
- Health & Wellness
- Wildland Urban Interface and Situational Awareness
- Operational Leadership

The NWCG Safety and Health Working Team (SHWT) urges you to take a moment of silence for line of duty deaths, and review the June 2009 Safety Gram for fatalities and serious accidents. Take time each day by providing tailgate safety sessions on one topic area each day, or provide similar brief programs that are unique, and focus on high risk, low frequency events in your daily jobs.

Attached is a list of talking points you may wish to consider when developing your Safety Week briefings. Web sites for additional information and ideas include the following: NWCG Safety and Health Working Team (SHWT) at <http://www.nwcg.gov/teams/shwt/index2.htm> , Six Minutes for Safety Program at [http://www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/dsp\\_sixminutes.php](http://www.nifc.gov/sixminutes/dsp_sixminutes.php), the Wildland Fire Safety Training Annual Refresher (WFSTAR):

<http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/topics.html>,  
and the IAFC website at <http://www.iafc.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=306>

Thank you for your cooperation and commitment in this important national safety effort.



Chair, NWCG Safety and Health Working Team



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**Suggested Wildland Fire Safety Topics**  
**IAFC Safety Week**  
**June 14-20, 2009**

**“Protect Yourself: Your Safety, Health and Survival are your Responsibility”**

Moment of silence for line of Duty Deaths. To review serious injuries, and fatalities to date in 2009, refer to the June Safety Gram,

[http://www.nifc.gov/safety/SHWT\\_documents/Safety\\_Gram\\_June\\_2009.pdf](http://www.nifc.gov/safety/SHWT_documents/Safety_Gram_June_2009.pdf)

2008 Safety and Health Working Team Risk Management Summary,

[http://www.nifc.gov/safety/SHWT\\_documents/SHWT\\_08\\_Risk\\_Mgt\\_Summary.doc](http://www.nifc.gov/safety/SHWT_documents/SHWT_08_Risk_Mgt_Summary.doc)

**Safety - Defensive Driving & Roadside Safety:**

- Review Incident Operation Driving standards for driver limitations:  
<http://www.nwcg.gov/teams/shwt/DrivingStandards2004.pdf>
- Review vehicle safety at:  
<http://www.iafc.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=413>
- Address **MANDATORY** seat belt use, driving with headlights, and using spotters when Backing; refer to specific agency policy.
- Review roadside response protocols for engines and response vehicles.  
[http://www.nifc.gov/policies/red\\_book/2009/appendixV.doc](http://www.nifc.gov/policies/red_book/2009/appendixV.doc)
- Use of High Visibility Vests during operations on roadways with emergency operations  
[http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/high\\_visibility\\_vest\\_req.htm](http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/high_visibility_vest_req.htm). Or review the TechTip from MTDC at <http://www.fs.fed.us/t-d/pubs/htmlpubs/htm09672311/>. To access site use, t-d for username and password.

**Health & Wellness**

- Review the FireFit Program: <http://www.nifc.gov/FireFit/index.htm>
- Review Work/Rest and Assignment Length guidelines:  
<http://www.nwcg.gov/teams/shwt/WRLOAStandards2004.pdf>

**Wildland Urban Interface and Situational Awareness**

- Review Wildland Urban Interface Structure Categories, Tactics, and Strategies  
[http://www.nifc.gov/safety/SHWT\\_documents/wui\\_lces\\_article.doc](http://www.nifc.gov/safety/SHWT_documents/wui_lces_article.doc) and discuss what your strategy will be for the WUI in your area.
- Review Page 1 of your Incident Response Pocket Guide for the **RISK MANAGEMENT PROCESS** and discuss how your crew will use the process.

**Operational Leadership**

- Review the **Leadership website** and discuss what Operational Leadership is within your Organization: <http://www.fireleadership.gov/>
- Review the Introduction to **High Reliability Organizing** (HRO) video:  
<http://www.wildfirelessons.net/documents/HRO%20intro%20video%20small.wmv>