



WILDLAND FIRE SAFETY REFRESHER

INSTRUCTOR GUIDE

Mission Statement:

The intent of annual fireline safety refresher training is to focus line-going personnel on operations and decision-making issues related to fireline and all-hazard incident safety. Refresher training will ensure firefighters have information regarding current initiatives and the upcoming fire season. Refresher training is provided in order to recognize and mitigate risk, maintain safe practices, and reduce accidents and near misses.

The 2014 Fire Refresher was built for firefighters, by firefighters.

<http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/>



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Notes to Instructor

Introduction

Annual Fireline Safety Refresher Training is required for all personnel participating in wildland fire who may be subject to assignments on the fireline. Check specific agency policy at the WFSTAR website to determine if this training package meets refresher training requirements of all the attendees.

Expectations

*****THIS IS NOT A PLUG AND PLAY PRODUCT. INSTRUCTOR PREPARATION AND STUDENT INTERACTION IS REQUIRED*****

Instructors should facilitate a quality refresher that engages all students no matter their ICS qualification or firefighting experience. The success of this program is dependent on your ability to stimulate meaningful discussion during group exercises. Classes with a wide array of experiences and qualifications can provide an excellent opportunity for the less experienced to be mentored and for the more experienced to rethink old habits.

Instructor Prerequisites

Lead instructors must be at least Single Resource Boss (SRB) qualified, and unit instructors must be at least Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1) qualified.

Adjunct instructors may be utilized to provide limited instruction in specialized knowledge and skills at the discretion of the lead instructor. They must be experienced, proficient and knowledgeable of current issues in their field of expertise.

All instructors will need the knowledge and skills to utilize current educational technology, as it relates to the WFSTAR website. Examples would be streaming and downloading interactive videos as well as the use of apps and mobile devices.



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Equipment and Materials

A list of equipment and other material required for course presentation includes:

- Media player
- Instructor Guide, Student Workbooks from WFSTAR [website](#)
- *Incident Response Pocket Guide* one for each student
- Sign-in sheet/training documentation form
- Flip chart(s) with paper and marking pens
- Download modules from WFSTAR website
- Optional: *New Generation Fire Shelter* video, NFES #2711
- Optional: *The New Generation Fire Shelter* booklet, NFES #2710

Administration

The instructor is responsible for identifying necessary equipment, materials, and supplies. The instructor is also responsible for recording attendance and assuring that evaluations are completed and returned:

ON THE WEB: http://www.nifc.gov/wfstar/contact_comments.html

BY MAIL: NWCG Training Development

Attn. Scott Anderson

3833 S. Development Avenue

Boise, ID 83705

BY FAX: (208) 387-5378

BY E-MAIL: s80ander@blm.gov

If all modules are utilized, the length of this program is approximately four hours, depending on time allowed for exercises. Additional time will be needed for the fire shelter deployment practice.

Encourage the students to explore the new [Tech Tools](#) web page on the WFSTAR website. Tech tools purpose is to provide a place for firefighters to get technology that helps them do their job safer and more efficiently.



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Module - 2013 Historic Video: Sector Boss

Overview

This module is intended to provide a look back as a measure of how far we have come and what we can still learn from those who came before us.

Target Audience: Wildland Firefighters

Time: Video 12 minutes, Exercise 15 minutes, Total 27 minutes

Exercise: Discuss in small groups or as a class the various differences of fireline practices being conducted now as opposed to practices of an earlier era in the video. See organizational charts and quiz.



Instructor Tasks



- Introduce the goal listed above.
- Play the video
- Conduct the student exercise below
- Have the students use the QR code to evaluate the module

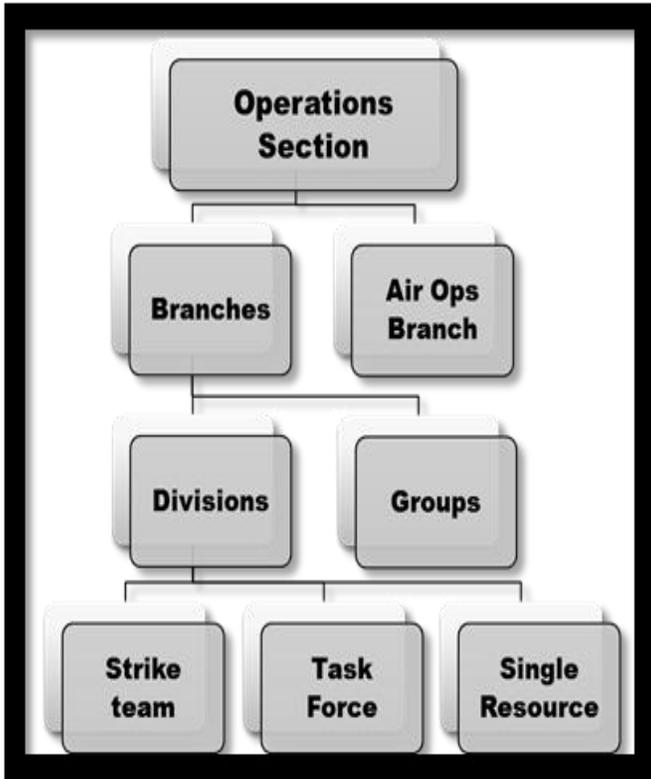


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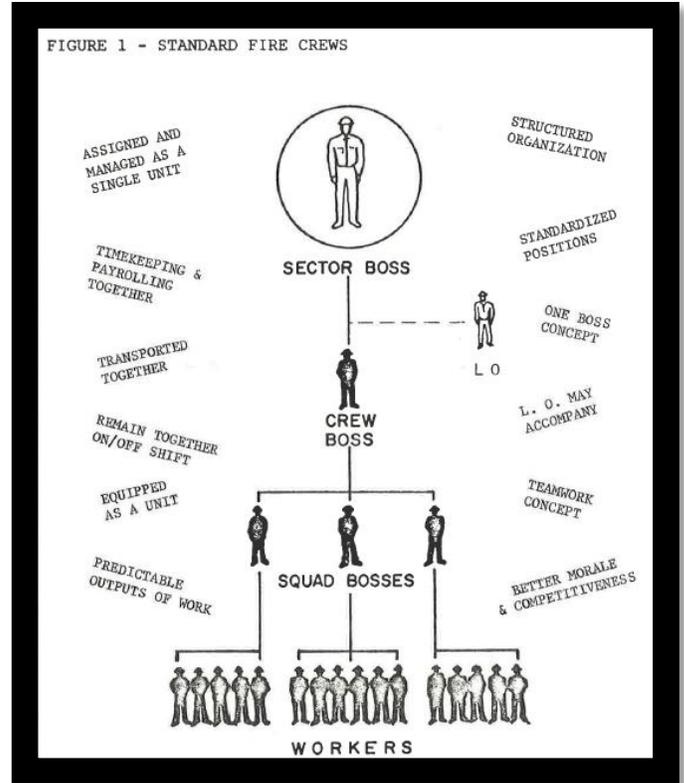


The position of Sector Boss is no longer used. Why do you think it's faded from our organizational structure? Which present day position most closely resembles it?

Organization Chart Today



Organization Chart 1978





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Take the quiz below and discuss, as a class, the relevance of these questions to today's fireline operations.

Typical questions from Sector Boss Student Workbook 1978

QUESTION 1

From your experiences on large fires, where do communications break-downs most generally occur?

- a. Through the line chain-of-command.
- b. Between line personnel and Service.
- c. Between fire camp and the supporting office.
- d. Between aircraft operations and the fireline.
- e. Among various supervisors in the sectors.

QUESTION 2

Which of the following would you consider to be barriers to communications on the part of the listener?

- a. Intolerance to others' ideas.
- b. Abnormal speech patterns.
- c. Emotion laden words.
- d. Over-familiarity with the topic.
- e. Distracting noises.

QUESTION 4

Which of the following statements is not part of Murphy's Law?

- a. Everything takes longer than you think.
- b. Work multiplies to fill up the available time.
- c. Left to themselves, things will go from bad to worse.
- d. If anything can go wrong, it will.



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Instructor Notes



Module Evaluation QR code



[Tech Tools](#)

