



Pennsylvania State Fire Academy

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Minimum Standard for Accreditation (MSA)

November 2002

Revised 02 06

Course Title: Introduction to Wildland Urban Interface Firefighting for Structural Company Officers (IWFSCO)

Length of Course: 16 Hours

Lecture/Lab Breakdown: 12/4

Prerequisites: ELFG and NICS-FS or ICS plus IS-700

Referenced Texts: National Fire Academy Student Manual, *Introduction to Wildland and Wildland/Urban Interface Firefighting for Structural Company Officers*.

Course Goal: The goal of the course is to provide the Structural Company Officer with the knowledge and skills needed to use a structural fire company safely and effectively in a Wildland and Wildland/Urban Interface fire environment.

Description of Course: This course developed by the National Fire Academy (NFA) and the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) will provide a basic understanding of the Wildland and Wildland/Urban Interface firefighting issues that Structural Company Officers will need to deal with when assigned to a Wildfire incident. The Structural Company Officer (SCO) will be arriving at an incident that may be very different from the incidents he/she usually responds to in their everyday operations. Specific actions and decision making guidance for the Structural Company Officer to safeguard their personnel and equipment will be taught in this course.

Description of Methodology to be used: (Brief): Lecture, discussion, video, and large and small group activities.

Student Equipment / Supply Needs: Notebook; pen & pencil; NFA Student Manual, *Introduction to Wildland and Wildland/Urban Interface Firefighting for Structural Company Officers*.

Equipment/Audiovisual/Supply requirements: LCD projector, computer, PPT Slide Presentation on CD-Rom, VCR and screen or monitor, video-tape with course videos, student manuals (supplied by Educational Training Agency), pencils and copies of tests. (Master copies of test materials are appended in the Instructor's Guide)

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COURSE OUTLINE

<u>Time</u>	<u>Content</u>
0:30	Course Registration/Introductions
2:00	Unit 1: Introduction to Wildland and Wildland/Urban Interface Firefighting
2:00	Unit 2: Wildland or Wildland/Urban Interface Environment
2:30	Unit 3: Wildland Fire Behavior
4:00	Unit 4: Command and Control Issues of Wildland/Urban Interface
4:30	Unit 5: Tactics
0:30	Course Summary & Course Evaluations

Competency Evaluation Mechanism (Brief description - Attach copy): Instructor assessment of Student's grasp of concepts by questioning and observation of group exercises/activities and the passing of all Unit quizzes with a 70% score.

Course Objectives (Specific):

1. The student will be able to describe a Wildland and Wildland/Urban Interface environment.
2. The student will describe a Wildland/Urban Interface Fire.
3. The student will identify expectations and concerns.
4. The student will identify additional training courses and educational materials.
5. The student will be able to evaluate the environment and how the environment affects their assignment in a Wildland and Wildland/Urban Interface Incident.
6. The student will describe considerations in the wildland fire environment that may be different in the structural environment.
7. The student will describe wildland firefighter tactical approaches.
8. The student will identify equipment considerations.
9. The student will identify communications considerations.
10. The student will identify command and control reporting issues.
11. The student will be able to evaluate the impact of fire behavior and weather on the safety of operations at a Wildland or Wildland/Urban Interface Incident.
12. The student will describe factors that affect the start and spread of wildland fires.
13. The student will describe fuel considerations in Wildland and Wildland/Urban Interface Incidents.
14. The student will describe topography considerations in Wildland and Wildland/Urban Interface Incidents.
15. The student will describe weather considerations in Wildland and Wildland/Urban Interface Incidents.
16. The student will recognize situations that indicate problem or extreme wildland fire behavior.
17. The student will be able to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of operations at a Wildland/Urban Interface Incident.

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Course Objectives (continued):

18. The student will identify the 18 Watch Out Situations.
19. The student will identify the Ten Standard Firefighting Orders.
20. The student will conduct an incident size-up, including safety considerations.
21. The student will be able to interpret assignments and to identify operational safety issues when operating at a Wildland or Wildland/Urban Interface emergency.
22. The student will identify typical tasks involved, deployment concerns, and safety issues in a Wildland or Wildland/Urban Interface Fire when assigned to rescue and evacuation.
23. The student will identify typical tasks involved, deployment concerns, and safety issues in a Wildland or Wildland/Urban Interface Fire when assigned to supplying water.
24. The student will identify typical tasks involved, deployment concerns, and safety issues in a Wildland or Wildland/Urban Interface Fire when assigned to structural and site preparation.
25. The student will identify typical tasks involved, deployment concerns, and safety issues in a Wildland or Wildland/Urban Interface Fire when assigned to structural preparation.
26. The student will identify typical tasks involved, deployment concerns, and safety issues in a Wildland or Wildland/Urban Interface Fire when assigned to fire suppression.

Questions/Comments: Contact the Curriculum Specialist