



Protection Contract Services Unit

2016 IFCA Newsletter

June
2016

Protection from Fire Program

From the Unit Coordinator

With warmer temperatures approaching, ODF is beginning to place forest use restrictions around the state; a sure sign that fire season is just around the corner. We hope this newsletter finds you rested and ready to tackle another potentially busy fire season.

The PCSU staff has been busy preparing for the current season, and looking ahead to a new agreement for 2017. The staff has met with key agency partners to review and refine concepts provided by contractors and ODF staff. We are working to devise a best-value evaluation process that is streamlined and objective. We plan to post the solicitation on ORPIN in the late fall, and expect to implement the new agreement in 2017.

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HOURS AND FAX

Monday—Friday
0730-1600

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Dispatch Readiness & Company Manifests

Electronic company manifests must be emailed to the PCSU no later than July 01, 2016. Many of you have emailed company manifests already and have met crew standards to enable being called for early season deployments. Regardless of whether your full company manifest has already been submitted, your Final Full Company Manifest must be submitted again between June 15 and July 01. The PCSU will only accept emailed electronic spreadsheets, please do not fax or mail hard copies.

DDL Inspections

Bob is in the process of conducting the annual DDL inspections to ensure that previously recorded standards are continuing to be met. Bob has completed the southern Oregon region and will soon be heading to visit the eastside contractors, as well as the local area contractors.

PCSU at Incidents

Once again, PCSU staff plans to be present at various incidents over the season to check in with both IFCA crews and government, and answer questions or help facilitate successful operations, when needed.

Contacting PCSU Staff

PCSU staff is available as indicated on the schedule to the left of this page. Staff will also respond to urgent needs after hours during fire season. If corresponding during after hours, please use the email PCSU@oregon.gov to ensure timely response.

Computer Generated CTRs

For those of you who have the ability to create electronic timesheets, they are being accepted (please verify this with each incident) as long as they include all of the components that are required for financial auditing and record review. Signatures cannot be electronic and there needs to be the ability to create copies.

Agency Incident Personnel Feedback

Some of you asked about the ability to provide feedback on agency personnel at incidents. The ICS 226 Performance Rating form can be used. Any evaluations that are provided to PCSU will be shared with staff as appropriate.

Fire Season Reminders

Fire Shelters

Please ensure that your fire shelters comply with IFCA Specification F 3.1.7. For clarification for evaluating fire shelters, please <http://www.fs.fed.us/t-pubs/pdfpubs/pdf11512301/pdf11512301dpi72.pdf>

Heat/Fatigue/Hydration—Please remember to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Maintain situational awareness at all times
- Know fire orders and watch out situations
- Eat properly & stay hydrated
- Take breaks when necessary
- Wear appropriate PPE
- Report injuries/illnesses and hazards

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health developed a fact sheet that can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2013-158/pdfs/2013-158.pdf>

Work/Rest ratio should be monitored by contractors to determine the need for additional rest periods, length of assignment and mandatory days off.

Chain of Command

If experiencing issues on an incident, please be sure to follow your chain of command: TFLD, DIVS, OPSC, ICPI, FSC, IC, then PCSU staff.

Non-Crew Members at Fire Camp

With the exception of a company's crew representative, additional company employees that are not members of a crew and are not on a crew manifest should not be in Fire Camp. Please refer to D 4.9 2. for the IFCA specification on crew representative identification and compensation.

Crew Numbers on Performance Evaluations

Performance evaluations are an important component of the IFCA. At PCSU, we review evaluations for various reasons. Just as important is the ability to easily identify specific crews listed on Performance s. Please remember to list the crew number on each performance evaluation that you receive.



Definition of Season as it relates to Yellow Dot to Red Dot Firefighter Advancement

Per IFCA, 'Season' for the purpose of firefighting experience, means a period of time of indeterminate length during the same calendar year or longer, which shall consist of at least 15 **operational periods** or more on any type (1 through 5) **Incident**.

B 3.2.1.3 language was amended to read: 'To easily identify the **Crew Members** who meet this experience requirement, each IQC must be marked with a colored identifier as follows: **YELLOW** to indicate a firefighter with less than one **Season**; **RED** to indicate a non-supervisory firefighter with **one Season or more**; and **BLUE** to indicate a firefighter certified as a FFT1 (Squad Boss), **CRWB** or STCR.'

The new language **allows for** advancement of a yellow dot to a red dot as soon as they have completed the required op periods. A Contractor will also be allowed to make a decision on whether or not to advance a firefighter to be considered experienced, even if the firefighter has completed the 15 op periods.

Air Transport Procedures

Please review the [Redmond Air Center Mobilization Ramp Procedures Document](#) and [Prohibited Items Brochure](#) that address policies and safety procedures for being transported by air. If there are questions or concerns regarding these policies, please address them with the Fixed Wing Base Manager assigned to coordinate the deployment.

The **Keep Oregon Green (KOG) Association** has developed a new website that shares prevention awareness messages, forest closure updates, tips on defensible space, kids activities and merchandise. If you are interested, please visit the site at <http://keeporegongreen.org>.

Have a Safe Summer!

