



Protection Contract Services Unit

2015 IFCA Newsletter

June 2015

Protection from Fire Program

From the Unit Coordinator

It has been a busy spring and we are gearing up for another active fire season! We have successfully completed our second annual round of Contractor/CRWB Workshops with over 160 contract personnel attending. This year the focus was on incident procedures for IFCA personnel, IMT Logistics and Plans Section functions, safety/medical topics, and the importance of mutual respect across all incident resources. For those of you who were unable to attend one of the sessions this year, we have provided the workshop presentation online at:

<http://www.oregon.gov/odf/pages/fire/ops/iaca.aspx>.

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2015 Season Final Complete Company Manifests are due July 01

Thanks to those contractors who have already submitted company manifests to the PCSU for review and approval of crew standards. The approved crews are able to be stuated as available in ROSS and several were already deployed to the *Peavine Fire* in DFPA in May.

***Regardless of whether your full company manifest has already been submitted, your Final Full Company Manifest must be submitted between June 15 and July 01 to meet crew standards for all of your awarded crews.**

REMINDER: Your crews cannot be stuated as available in ROSS until your complete company manifest has been submitted and approved for crew standards by the PCSU.

Annual DDL Visits

This year's DDL visits are going well and have been a great way for Bob to get out and meet our contractors. Just a reminder, the purpose of the DDL visits are to ensure that previously recorded standards are being maintained at the DDL. Bob will be contacting Northwest Oregon contractors very soon to schedule appointments to visit their locations.

DDL Monitoring

The PCSU is coordinating with agency field personnel to monitor the assembly and dispatch of crews from their DDLs this fire season. Please be aware and prepared as these random checks will be conducted across the region to ensure contractor compliance with IFCA Exhibit D. Non-compliance will result in administrative action and possible suspension or termination of crews.

Crew Member Transfers & Required Recordkeeping

PCSU must be notified within 24 hours of a crew member transfer by both the prior contractor and hiring contractor. Prior contractor shall deliver true and correct copies of all records of the crew member to the hiring contractor in accordance with ORS 652.750. This includes all records that have been used to determine the crew member's qualifications and must include any LSA certification, CTRs, performance evaluations, inspection check lists and forms.

EMT Qualifications and Requirements for WCFT

The [WCT Administrator's Guide](#) states that the first aid specialist must be currently qualified and certified in Oregon and/or the National Registry as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) or equivalent. An Emergency Medical First Responder does not qualify, but a Paramedic does qualify. It is the contractor's responsibility to ensure compliance. Non-compliance will result in the WCFT being invalid.

IQC Cards

Reminder: Please be sure to notify Bob when your supervisory firefighters are listed in your training provider's database so they can be approved for IQC cards.

Chain Saw Operators (Sawyers)

Chain saw operators are to be used only for fire line construction, mop-up or clearing access routes and emergency escape routes or safety zones. Chain saw operators should NOT be performing as hazardous tree fallers.

Monitoring Work/Rest

It is the government's policy to maintain safe and productive incident activities. Government will manage work/rest periods, assignment duration and shift length. Contractors will plan for all crews to be provided a minimum 2:1 work/rest ratio. Work/rest ratio should also be monitored by contractors to determine the need for additional rest periods, length of assignment and mandatory days off in the case of an extended assignment or reassignment.



FFT1/CRWB positions and LSA

LSA certification must be completed within the pre-season time frame of annual third party LSA evaluation testing. FFT1s that have completed their experience and training for FFT1 positions after the completed time frame of the annual third party LSA process can be issued an IQC showing a language designation as NT. NT requires testing and approval at each incident.



Boots

OR OSHA has modified boot requirements for fire suppression activities, allowing for a broader range of boots to be used for wildfire suppression activities. [OAR 437-007-1320](#). Per IFCA Specification F 3.1.1, each Crew Member must wear foot protection that provides adequate traction and ankle support. Crew Members operating chain saws shall wear foot protection that is constructed with cut-resistant material which will protect the Crew Member against contact with a running chain saw. Boots shall be leather, lace-up type, minimum of 8" high with lug type sole in good condition (steel toed boots are not acceptable).

Division Supervisor Checklist

A checklist has been developed to aid fire line supervisors in fulfilling their duties for IFCA resources. Feel free to print the checklist from the IFCA webpage and make copies to have handy at incidents. We hope the checklist will assist those fire line supervisors who are not familiar with our regional policies or the IFCA.

Dispatch Priority Document

ODF and federal government staff have collaboratively developed a guidance document for the IFCA Best Value dispatching process for the Pacific Northwest Region. The document clarifies the Best Value dispatching process for federal, WDNR and ODF incidents. It is not intended to serve as an amendment to the existing agreement nor does it change the intent. The document language has been incorporated into the 2015 [Northwest Mobilization Guide](#) Chapter 30, page 36.