



# CA-219: WILDLAND FIREFIGHTING – FIRING OPERATIONS

## Implementation Plan

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Issued: May 2019

### OVERVIEW

This document is intended to provide information for all State Fire Training (SFT) stakeholders on the new CA-219 Wildland Firefighting – Firing Operations (2019) curriculum, which meets and exceeds the NWCG S-219 Firing Operations (2014) curriculum.

The development of this curriculum was a collaborative effort with the Office of the State Fire Marshal, State Fire Training; the Office of Emergency Services, Fire and Rescue Branch; CAL FIRE, Training Center (Ione); the California Fire Technology Training Director’s Association, and members of the prescribed fire community.

As described in previous STEAC documents, the NWCG S-234 Ignition Operations (2009) course was eliminated and replaced by NWCG S-219 Ignition Operations (2014), making the use of live fire optional. Due to concerns raised by OES and STEAC stakeholders, the CA-219 curriculum was developed and formatted into the SFT curriculum development model. Stakeholders are encouraged to study this information carefully and seek clarification from SFT if questions arise.

The CA-219: Wildland Firefighting – Firing Operations (2018) Course Plan has been developed based on the authority of the State Fire Marshal and the Office of Emergency Services. The Course Plan will be available on the SFT website.

### IMPLEMENTATION

Special attention should be paid to this new FSTEP course, as it NOT included in any current SFT certification track. This course will replace the S-234/S-219 courses in the SFT Course Information and Required Materials Manual (CIRM). Agencies that chose to utilize the NWCG S-219 curriculum will have to follow their own AHJ policy.

**CA-219: Wildland Firefighting – Firing Operations (2018) .....Available April 1, 2019**

**NWCG S-219 Firing Operations (2014).....Course Phase out July 1, 2019**  
Effective July 1, 2019, NWCG S-219 Firing Operations (2014) curriculum will be retired from the SFT course catalog and no longer available.

**NWCG S-234 Ignition Operations (2009)..... Course Phase out 2014**  
In 2014, NWCG S-234 Ignition Operations (2009) curriculum was retired from the SFT course catalog and is no longer available.



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### INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS

**Instructor Registration.....Available April 1, 2019**

The following two pools of current SFT S-219 Registered Instructors are authorized to teach the new CA-219: Wildland Firefighting – Ignition Operations course:

1. Current SFT S-219 Registered Instructors who are also CAL FIRE C-234 instructors will be authorized to teach the CA-219: Wildland Firefighting – Ignition Operations course or;
2. Current SFT S-219 Registered Instructors who were members of the pilot CA-219 instructor cadre will be authorized to teach the CA-219: Wildland Firefighting – Ignition Operations course.

For all other SFT S-219 Registered Instructors who **DO NOT** meet the above criteria, will need to apply for a PACE II review of their instructor qualifications, including appropriate education and practical experience relating to course content including documentation of wildland live fire training. Any fees related to PACE II review shall be waived until June 30, 2019. Beginning July 1, 2019, new instructors will be required to either complete the new course or apply for a PACE II review and pay the appropriate fees.

Additionally, a new instructor of the FSTEP courses, the following shall apply:

1. Position and Professional Experience:
  - a. Held a permanent position within a Recognized Fire Agency in California for a minimum of three years or;
  - b. Worked in a volunteer position or paid call firefighter with a Recognized Fire Agency in California for a minimum of five years and;
  - c. Documentation of specific expertise in wildland live fire training - firing operations and;
  - d. Qualified as a Prescribed Fire Burn Boss (RXB1/2); **or**
    - i. Qualified as a Division Supervisor (DIVS); **or**
    - ii. Qualified as a Firing Boss (FIRB); **or**
    - iii. Qualified as a Strike Team/Task Force Leader

### SFT STAFF COORDINATION

This is a new FSTEP course with State Fire Training. Staff will be required to facilitate the PACE process, expecting an inordinate number of PACE II requests regarding this course. Additionally, some students who have successfully completed the pilot CA-219 course in the past 24 months, may be applying for a course equivalency diploma. Staff will work with the pilot CA-219 registered instructors for task book completion confirmation prior to approving a CA-219 diploma.



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### **POTENTIAL AGENCY IMPACTS**

Beginning July 1, 2019, State Fire Training will no longer be offering S-219 Firing Operations (2014) in the CIRM or issuing S-219 Firing Operations diplomas. All CA-219: Wildland Firefighting – Ignition Operations diplomas will clearly state that this course meets and exceeds the NWCG S-219 curriculum and should be considered a course equivalent. For those fire agencies utilizing the existing NWCG S-219 Firing Operations (2014) curriculum and course completion certification (diploma) as a condition of employment, promotion and/or CICC certification shall coordinate with their AHJ and/or their OES Operational Area for appropriate resolution.

Accredited Regional Training Programs (ARTP), Accredited Local Academies (ALA), community colleges and all other local delivery venues need to review the curriculum and seek approval from their curriculum committee/program sponsor, as appropriate.