Student Expectations

Activity 1-1

Format: Squad

Timeframe: 0:45

Description
This activity provides instructors an insight into the students' expectations while also serving as an opportunity for the students to develop working relationships with their squad.

Materials
- Conference board/pads with markers/erasers

Instructions
1. Each squad writes their responses to the following question. (10 minutes)
    - What do you expect from this course?
2. Select a spokesperson.
3. The spokesperson will discuss the squad's responses with the class. (5 minutes)
4. Post your squad's list in the classroom and refer to it ensure the expectations are met as the subjects are covered in the class.

Instructor Notes
- Divide the class into their squads.
- Allow each squad 10 minutes to prepare.
- Allow each spokesperson 5 minutes for presentation and discussion.
- Review expectations, clarify as needed, and discuss when each will be presented.

Predictive Services

Activity 2-1

Format: Squad

Timeframe: Homework
0:30 (in class)

Description
This activity provides the students with experience accessing information required to keep current with fire weather conditions and forecasts using information from the Predictive Services website.

Materials
- Computer or smart phone
- Internet connection

Instructions
1. After class, each squad will prepare a report on current fire weather conditions and forecasts for their assigned location within a GACC Predictive Service Area (PSA) that will be presented at the next class session.
2. Select a spokesperson.
3. The spokesperson will discuss the squad's findings with the class. (5 minutes)

Instructor Notes
- Pick a different PSA for each squad.
- Allow each spokesperson 5 minutes for presentation and discussion.

Predict Fire Behavior and Develop a Tactical and Safety Plan

Activity 2-5

Format: Squad

Timeframe: 1:00

Description
This activity provides the students with experience predicting the fire behavior of a planned burn.

Materials
- Computer or smart phone
- Internet connection

Instructions
1. Each squad will be given a firing scenario and the associated fire environment in order to complete a firing operation.
2. Predict the probable and possible fire behavior of the burn operation utilizing the *Fireline Hand Book, Appendix B* and any other fire behavior references. (30 minutes)
3. Select a spokesperson.
4. The spokesperson will discuss the squad's predictions with the class. (5 minutes)

Instructor Notes
- Present the scenario based on the fire environment and proposed burn plan with the potential or the history to cause an entrapment, such as Battlement Creek firing operation fatal entrapment.
- Allow each squad 30 minutes to prepare.
- Allow each spokesperson 5 minutes for presentation and discussion.
- Discuss with the students how the Fire Orders should have been used at the incident.

Answer Key
- Based on each case study selected.

Critical Factors for Reconnaissance of a Firing Operation

Activity 4-3

Format: Squad

Timeframe: 0:45

Description
This activity provides the students with experience accessing information from the IAP or Burn Plan and the fire environment that may affect the outcome in order to determine if the Burn Plan is adequate.

Materials
- Case study burn plan and the fire environment at the time of the burn.

Instructions
1. Each squad will review the burn plan and identify the failures in the planning process. (30 minutes)
2. Select a spokesperson.
3. The spokesperson will discuss the squad's findings with the class. (5 minutes)

Instructor Notes
- Use case studies from a burn that escaped due to poor planning.
- Allow each squad 30 minutes to prepare.
- Allow each spokesperson 5 minutes for presentation and discussion.

Answer Key
- Based on each case study selected.

Elements of a Failed Burn

Activity 4-7

Format: Squad

Timeframe: 1:00

Description
This activity provides the students with experience analyzing all the elements of a failed burn and poor risk management decisions, using all the information from Units 1-4.

Materials
- Case study of a failed burn operation and all related information
  - Burn plan
  - Fire environment
  - Firing operations
  - Holding action

Instructions
1. Each squad will review their case study and identify failures of operations. (30 minutes)
2. Select a spokesperson.
3. The spokesperson will discuss the squad's findings with the class. (5 minutes)

Instructor Notes
- Present a case study from a burn that escaped due to poor planning.
- Allow each squad 30 minutes to prepare.
- Allow each spokesperson 5 minutes for presentation and discussion.

Answer Key
- Based on each case study selected.

IAP Briefing

Activity 5-1

Format: Squad

Timeframe: 1:00

Description
This activity provides each squad with information and organization required for a safe and effective learning environment for the live fire exercise.

Materials
- IAPs for each overhead, squad, and holding crew
- Briefing map
- Presentation easel
- Check-in table with ICS 211

Instructions
1. Plans Chief and/or Registered CA-219 Instructor will conduct a briefing of the live fire operations, following ICS standards.
2. After the briefing, the squads will attend breakout briefing with their Squad Instructor.
3. Holding Boss will have a breakout briefing with the holding forces.

Instructor Notes
- A minimum of one (1) Assistant CA-219 instructor per squad to serve as Squad Instructor.
- See the CA-219: Wildland Firefighting – Firing Operations Burn Plan for further information.

Holding Equipment Use

Activity 5-2

Format: Squad

Timeframe: 1:00

Description
This activity provides each squad with experience using the tools and procedures required for the squad to hold firing operations.

Materials
- Hand tools
- Back pumps
- Drip torch or fusee
- Wildland PPE
- Wildland Engine Type 3, 5, or 6

Instructions
1. Demonstrate line construction.
2. Demonstrate how to cool or contain fire with back pumps and by throwing dirt.
3. Demonstrate how to organize the squad and tool order for hot line and holding.

Instructor Notes
- Instructor or a student with extensive wildland experience should demonstrate the use of the equipment first if members of the squad lack wildland firefighting background.
- Utilize students to cut breaks to breakup firing blocks.
- This activity can be combined with Activity 5-3: Firing Equipment Use.

Firing Equipment Use

Activity 5-3

Format: Squad

Timeframe: 0:30

Description
This activity provides each squad with experience to use drip torches and fusees safely and effectively.

Materials
- Hand tools
- Back pumps
- Drip torch or fusee
- Wildland PPE
- Wildland Engine Type 3, 5, or 6

Instructions
1. Demonstrate how to set up a drip torch.
2. Demonstrate safe ignition, firing techniques, and extinguishment of a drip torch.
3. Demonstrate safe use and extinguishment of a fusee.
4. Demonstrate line firing.

Instructor Notes
- This activity can be combined with Activity 5-2: Holding Equipment Use.

Firing Techniques and Patterns

Activity 5-4

Format: Squad

Timeframe: 9:30

Description
This activity provides each squad with experience to perform the various standard hand firing techniques safely and effectively.

Materials
- Hand tools
- Back pumps
- Drip torch or fusee
- Wildland PPE
- Wildland Engine Type 3, 5, or 6

Instructions
1. Demonstrate strip firing with 1-2-3 and 3-2-1 patterns.
2. Demonstrate dot firing.
3. Demonstrate ring firing.
4. Demonstrate strip firing utilizing grass crushed by tire tracks for wet line firing.
5. Demonstrate Chevron firing.
6. Demonstrate blowhole firing.
7. Demonstrate defensive firing to protect a simulated structure or resource.
8. Demonstrate firing dogleg and/or saddle.

Instructor Notes
- This activity must be well coordinated with the other squads and holding forces.

Firing Boss

Activity 5-5

Format: Squad

Timeframe: 4:00

Description
This activity provides each squad with the opportunity to serve as Firing Boss Planning and execute an immediate need firing operation.

Materials
- Hand tools
- Back pumps
- Drip torch or fusee
- Wildland PPE
- Wildland Engine Type 3, 4, or 5

Instructions
1. Demonstrate the ability to complete the firing operation safely.
2. Demonstrate the ability to plan a firing operation.
3. Demonstrate the ability to brief subordinates on a firing plan.
4. Demonstrate the ability to organize to accomplish the firing plan.
5. Demonstrate the ability to brief subordinates on a firing plan.
6. Demonstrate the ability to adjust the firing plan or burn pattern as conditions change.
7. Demonstrate the ability to coordinate effectively with the holding forces.

Instructor Notes
- Instructor should play the role of DIVS supervising the FIRB and simulating an immediate need firing situation.